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14465
29

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THE PLEASANT HISTORY OF IOHN Winchcomb, in his younger yeares *called* lack *of* Newbery, *the famous* and worthy Clothier of England: declaring *his life and loue, together with his charitable* deeds and great hoſpitality;

And how hee ſet continually fiue *hundred poore people at worke, to the* great benefit of the Common-wealth: *worthy to be read and regarded.*

Now the eight time Imprinted, corrected, and inlarged, by *T. D.*

Haud cure inuidiam.

AT LONDON,
Printed by *Humfrey Lownes*, and are to bee ſould at the ſigne of the Star on Bredſtreet hill.
1619.

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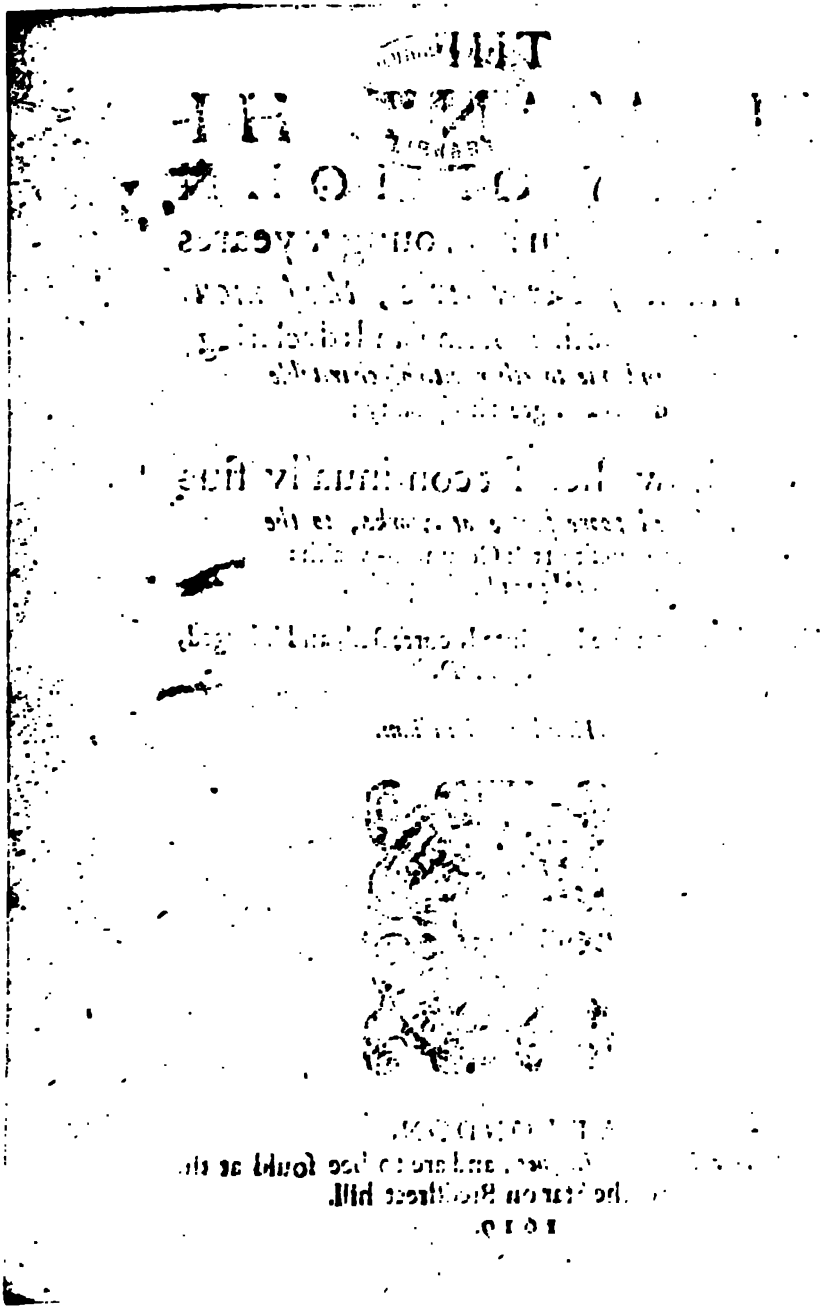

TO ALL FAMOVS Cloth-workers in England, I wish all happineſſe of life, proſperity and *brotherly affection.*

AMong all manuall Arts vſed in this Land, none is more famous for deſert, or more beneficiall to the Commonwealth, than is the moſt neceſſarie Art of Clothing. And therefore as the benefit thereof is great, ſo are the profeſſors of the ſame to bee both loued and maintained. Many wiſe men therfore, hauing deeply conſidered the ſame, moſt bountifully haue beſtowed their gifts for vpholding of ſo excellent a commoditie, which hath been, and yet is the nourishing of many thouſands of poore People. Wherefore to you moſt worthy Clothiers doe I dedicate this my rude worke, which hath raiſed out of the duſt of forgetfulneſſe a moſt famous and worthie man, whoſe name was *John Lin-*

combe, alias *Iacke* of *Newberie*; of whoſe life and loue I haue briefly written, and in a plain and humble manner, that it my be the better vnderſtood of thoſe for whoſe ſake I take paines to compile it, that is, for the well minded Clothiers, that herein they may behold the great worſhip and credit which men of this trade haue in former time come vnto. If therefore it bee of you kindly accepted, I haue the end of my deſire, and thinke my paines well recompenced: and finding your gentlenes anſwering my hope, it ſhall moue mee ſhortly to ſet to your ſight the long hidden Hiſtorie of *Thomas* of *Redding*, *George* of *Gloceſter*, *Richard* of *Worceſter*, and *William* of *Saliſburie*, with diuers others, who were all moſt notable members in the Commonwealth of this Land, and men of great fame and dignitie. In the meane ſpace I commend you all to the moſt high God; who euer increaſe, in all perfection and proſperous eſtate, the long honoured trade of Engliſh Clothiers.

Yours in all humble ſeruice,

T. D.

THE MOST PLEAſant and delectable Hiſtorie of Iohn Wincecombe, *otherwiſe* called *Iacke* of *Newberie*: and firſt of his *loue and pleaſant life.*

Chap. I.

IN the daies of King Henery the eight that moſt-noble & victorious Prince, in the beginning of his reigne, Iohn Winchcomb, a broad cloth Weauer, dwelt in Newberie, a towne in Barkſhire: who for that he was a man of a merry diſpoſition, & honeſt conuerſation, was wondrous well-beloued of Rich and Poore, eſpecially becauſe in euery place where hee came, hee would ſpend his money with the beſt, and was not at anytime ſeene a churle of his purſe. Wherefore beeing ſo good a companion, he was called of old and young Iack of Newbery: a man ſo generally well knowne in all his countrey for his good fellowſhip, that hee could goe in no place but hee found acquaintance; by meanes whereof Iack could no ſooner get a Crowne, but ſtraight hee found meanes to ſpend it: yet had hee euer this care, that hee would alwaies keepe himſelfe in comely and decent apparell, neither at any time would hee bee ouercome in drinke, but ſo diſcreetly behaue himſelfe with honeſt mirth, and pleaſant conceits, that hee was euery Gentlemans companion.

After

After that Jacke had long led this pleaſant life, (being (though but poore) in good eſtimation) it was his Maſters chance to die, and his Dame to be a Widow, who was a very comely ancient Woman, and of reaſonable Wealth. Whereſhe (having a good opinion of her man Iohn, committed vnto his gouernment the guiding of all his Workehouſes, for the ſpace of three yeeres together; In which time ſhee found him ſo carefull and diligent, that all things came forward and proſpered wonderous well. No man could intice him from his buſineſſe all the weeke, by all the intreaty they cou'd vſe: Inſomuch that in the end ſome of the wild youths of the Towne, began to deride and ſcoffe at him.

Doubtleſſe quoth one, I doubt ſome female ſpirit hath inchaunted Iacke to his treadles, and coniured him within the compaſſe of his Loome, that hee can ſtir no further. Now ſay truth quoth Iacke, and if you haue the leiſure to ſtay till the Charme bee done, the ſpace of ſixe dayes and fiue nights, you ſhall find mee ready to put on my holy-daie apparell, and on Sunday morning (by your paines) I will giue you a pot of Ale ouer againſt the Maypole. Nay quoth another, Ile lay my life, that as the Salamander cannot liue without the fire, ſo Iacke cannot liue without the ſmell of his Dames ſmocke. And I marueil quoth Iacke, that you beeing of the nature of the Herring (which ſo ſoone as hee is taken out of the Sea ſtraight dyes) can liue ſo long with your noſe out of the pot. Nay Iacke leaue thy ieſting quoth another, and goe along with vs, thou ſhalt not ſtay a iot. And becauſe I will not ſtay, nor make you a liar (quoth Iacke) Ile keepe mee here ſtill: and ſo farewell.

Thus then they departed, and after they had ſo halfe a ſcore times tried him to this intent, and ſaw hee would not be led by their lure, they left him to his owne will. Neuertheleſſe, euery Sunday in the afternoone, and euery Holy-day, Iacke would keepe them companie, and bee as merrie as a Pie. and hauing ſtill good ſtore of money in his purſe, one or other would euer be borrowing of him, but neuer could get

get pennie of it againe: which when Iack perceiued, he would neuer after carry about twelue pence at once in his purſe, and that being ſpent, hee would ſtraight returne home merily, taking his leaue of the company in this ſort.

My Maiſters I thank you, 'tis time to pack home,
For he that wants money is counted a Mome:
And twelue pence a Sunday being ſpent in good cheare,
To fifty two ſhillings amounts in the yeare;
Enough for a crafts man that liues by his hande,
And he that exceedes it ſhall purchaſe no lande.
For that I ſpend this day, Ile work hard to morrow,
For woe is that party that ſeeketh to borrow.
My money doth make me full merry to be,
And without my money none careth for mee:
Therefore wanting money what ſhould I do heere?
But haſte home, and thanke you for all my good cheer.

Thus this Iacke: good gouernment and diſcretion moued all the beſt and ſubſtantiallſt men of the Towne, ſo that it brought him great commendations, and his dame thought herſelfe not a little bleſt to haue ſuch a ſeruant; that was ſo diſcreet, ſo carefull, and ſo careſull for her profit? for ſhe had neuer a prentiſe that yeelded her more obedience then he did, or was more dutifull: ſo that by his good example, he did as much good as by his diligent labour and trauaile: which his ſingular vertue beeing noted by the widow, ſhee began to call very good countenance to her man Iohn, and to vſe very much talke with him in priuate: and firſt by way of communication, ſhee vouchſafed vnto him what ſuters ſhee had, and the great letters they made her, what gifts they ſent her, and the great affection they bare her, craning his opinion in the matter.

Maiſter Iacke found the fauour to bee his dames ſecreteſt, he thought it but ordinary himſelfe, and ghe ſing by the parties it would proue a good match, urgeth to quicken with this deuice in this ſort. Although it becommeth not mee your ſeruant to pry into your ſecrets, nay to bee buſie about matters of your loue: yet for ſo much as it hath pleaſed you

to

to vſe conference with mee in thoſe cauſes, I pray you let me intreat you to know their names that bee your ſuters, and of what profeſſion they bee.

Marie Iohn ſaith ſhe that you ſhall, and I pray thee take a cuſhion and ſit downe by mee. Nay quoth hee I thanke you, but there is no reaſon I ſhould ſit on a cuſhion till I haue deſerued it. If thou haſt not thou mightſt haue done ſaid ſhee: but faint ſouldiers neuer find fauour. Iohn replied, that makes mee indeed to want fauour: for I dare not trie Maydens becauſe they ſeeme coy, nor Wiues for feare of their Huſbands, nor Widowes, doubting their diſcontinuance. Why Iohn (quoth ſhee) hee that feares and doubts Women kind, cannot bee counted Mankind: and take this for a principle, all things are not as they ſeeme: but let vs leaue this and procede to our former matter. My firſt ſuter dwels at Wellingford, by Trade a Tanner, a man of good wealth and his name is Craftes, of comly perſonage, and very good behauiour, a Widower, well thought of amongſt his neighbours: hee hath proper lands, a faire houſe and well furniſhed, and neuer a childe in the world, and hee loues me paſſing well. Why then Dame quoth Iohn, you were beſt to haue him. Is that your opinion quoth ſhee? now truſt me, ſo it is not mine. For I haue two ſpeciall reaſons to the contrary: the one is, that hee being ouerwome in yeares makes mee ouerloth to loue him: the other, that I know one neerer hand.

Why ſeeme me beſeech(quoth Iack) I perceiue Loue is no loue, a preſent were is worſe by ten in the hundred than that which is ſought: but I pray be who is your ſecond ſuter? Iohn quoth ſhee, it may ſeeme immodeſty in me to betray my loues ſecrets: yet leſt ing thy diſcretion, and being perſwaded of thy ſecrecy, I will ſhew thee: the other is a man of middle yeares, but yet a Batcheler, by occupation a Taylor, dwelling at Hungerford: by report a very good husband, ſuch a one as hath crowned good Loue, and to mee he profeſſes much good will, for his perſon he may pleaſe any woman. I blame quoth Iohn, becauſe he pleaſeth you. Not ſo ſaid ſhe, for my eies are

vnpartiall

impartiall Iudges in that caſe: and albeit my opinion may be contrary to others, it his Art become not my eye-ſight, but is mee; this of a good wife, both for his perſon and conditions. Then truſt mee Dame (quoth Iohn) for ſo much as you are without doubt of your ſelfe that you will proue a good wife, and ſo well perſwaded of him, I ſhould thinke you could make no better choice. Truly Iohn (quoth ſhee) there be alſo two reaſons that moone me not to like of him: the one, that being ſo long a ranger, he would at home be a ſtranger: and the other, that I like better of one neerer hand. Who is that, quoth Iacke? Marry ſhee, the third Sonter to the Pariſhes of Spinhome-land, who hath a proper liuing, doth in of holy conuerſation & good eſtimation, whoſe affection to me is great. No doubt Dame (quoth Iohn) you may doe wonders well with him, where you ſhall haue no care but to ſerue God and to make ready his meate. O Iohn (quoth ſhee) the fleſh and the ſpirit agrees not; for hee will bee ſo bent to his booke, that hee will haue little minde of his bedfellow: one moneths ſtudying in a Sermon, will make him forget his wife a whole yeer. Truely Dame (quoth Iohn) I muſt needes ſpeake in his behalfe, and the rather in that he is a man of the Church, and your neere neighbour, to whom (as I gueſſe) you beare the beſt affection: I doe not thinke that hee will bee ſo much bound to his booke, as labour to the ſpirit, but that he will remember a woman at home as abroad. Well Iohn (quoth ſhe) I know my minde is not that way, for I like better of one neerer hand. No marueil (quoth Iacke) you are ſo peremptorie in ſeeing you haue ſo much choice: but I pray ye Dame (quoth he) let me know this fortunate man that is ſo highly placed in your fauour? Iohn (quoth ſhee) they are mocky to know nothing, that cannot keepe ſomething: that man (I tell thee) muſt goe nameleſſe: for he is Lord of my loue, and King of my deſires: there is neither Tanner, Taylor, nor Parſon, may compare with him, his preſence is a preſeruatiue to my health, his ſpeech ſtables my hearts reſt, and his wordes heauenly muſike to my eares. Why then Dame (quoth Iohn) for your bodies health, your hearts ioy, and your eares delight, doing

not the time, but entertaine him with a kiſſe, make his bed moſt yeares, and chop vp the match in the morning. Well, quoth ſhee, I perceiue thy conſent is quickly got to anie, hauing no care how I am matcht ſo I bee matcht: I wis, I wis I could not let thee goe ſo lightly, beeing loath that anyone ſhould haue thee, except I could loue her as well as my ſelfe. I thanke you ſir your kindneſſe and good will good Dame quoth hee, but it is not wiſedome for a young man that can ſcantly keepe himſelfe, to take a wife: therefore I hould it the beſt way to leade a ſingle life: for I haue heard ſay, that many ſecretiues ſolitaine marriage, eſpecially where want remaines: and beſide, it is a hard matter to finde a conſtant woman: for as young maides are fickle, ſo are old women ielous: the one a griefe too common, the other a torment intolerable. What Iohn (quoth ſhe) conſider that maidens fickleneſſe proceedes of haſtie fancies, but old womens ielouſie of ſuperabounding loue, and therefore the more to bee borne withall. But Dame, quoth hee, many are ielous without cauſe: for is it ſufficient for their miſtruſting natures to take exceptions at a ſhadow, at a word, at a looke, at a ſmile, nay at the twinkle of an eye, which neither man nor woman is able to expell? I knewe a woman that was readie to hang her ſelfe, for ſeeing but her huſbands ſhirt hang on a bedge with her maides ſmocke. I graunt that this furie may haunt ſome, quoth ſhee, yet there be many other that complaine not without great cauſe. Why, is there any cauſe that ſhould moue ielouſie, quoth Iohn? I by S. Mary is there quoth ſhe: for would it not grieue a woman (being one euery way able to delight her huſband) to ſee him forſake her, deſpiſe and contemne her, being neuer ſo merrie as when he is in other companie, fleeting abroad from morning till noone, from noone till night, and when he comes to bed, if hee turne to his wife, it is in ſuch ſolemne ſort, a weariſome drowſie lamenelle, that it brings rather lothſomneſſe than any delight: can you then blame a woman in this caſe to bee angrie and diſpleaſed? Ile tell you what, among brute beaſts it is a griefe intolerable: for I heard my Gooſegame tell that the beſt weather of her

flocke

flocke ſleeping one of the Gaines aboue the reſt, and ſeeing Gratia the Shepheard abuſing her, in abhominable ſort (ſubmitting the blame of Nature) could by no meanes beare that abuſe, but watching opportunity for reuenge, on a time found the ſaid Shepheard ſleeping in the field, and ſuddenly came againſt him in ſuch violent ſort, that by the force of his vnruthfull hornes, hee beat the braines out of the Shepheards head and ſlewe him. If then a Sheepe could not endure that iniurie, thinke not that women are ſo sheepiſh to ſuffer it. Beleeue mee (quoth Iohn) if euery horne-maker ſhould be ſo plagued by a horned beaſt, there ſhould bee leſſe hornes made in Newberie by many in a yeare. But Dame (quoth hee) to make an end of this prattle, becauſe it is an argument too deepe to be diſcuſſed betweene you and I, you ſhall heare me ſing an olde ſong, and ſo mee will depart to ſupper.

A maiden fare I daire not wed,
For feare to haue *Actæons* head.
A maiden blacke is often proud:
A maiden little will be loud.
A maiden that is high of groath,
They ſay is ſubiect vnto ſloath.
Thus, faire or foule, little or tall,
Some faults remaine among them all,
But of all the faults that be,
None is ſo bad as iealouſie.
For iealouſie is fierce and fell,
And burnes as hot as fire in hell:
It breedes ſuſpicion without cauſe,
And breakes the bondes of reaſons lawes.
To none it is a greater foe,
Than vnto thoſe where it doth grow.
And God keepe me both day and night,
From that fell, fond, and vgly ſpright:
For why? of all the plagues that be,
The ſecret plague is iealouſie.
Therefore I wiſh all women kinde,
Neuer to beare a iealous minde.

Well ſaid Iohn (quoth ſhe) thy ſong is not ſo ſure, but thy voice is as ſweet: but ſeeing the time agrees with our ſtomackes, though loth yet will wee giue ouer for this time, and betake our ſelues to our ſuppers. Then calling the reſt of her ſeruants, they fell to their meate merrily, and after ſupper, the Goodwife went abroad in her recreation, to walke awhile with one of her neighbours. And in the meane ſpace Iohn got him vp into his chamber, and there began to meditate on this matter, bethinking with himſelfe what hee were beſt to doe: for well he perceiued that his Dames affection was great towards him: knowing therefore the womans diſpoſition, and withall that her eſtate was reaſonable good, and conſidering beſides that he ſhould finde a houſe ready furniſhed, ſeruants readie taught, and all other things for his trade neceſſarie, he thought it beſt not to let ſlip that good occaſion, leaſt hee ſhould neuer come to the like. But againe, when hee conſidered her yeares to bee vnfitting to his youth, and that ſhe that ſometime had beene his Dame, would (perhaps) diſdaine to be gouerned by him that had beene her poore ſeruant, that it would proue but a baſde bargaine, doubting many inconueniences that might growe thereby, hee therefore reſolued to be ſilent rather than to proceed further: wherefore hee got him ſtraight to bed, and the next morning ſettled him ſelfe cloſe to his buſineſſe. His Dame comming home and hearing that her man was gone to bed, tooke that night but ſmall reſt, and early in the morning hearing him vp at his worke merrily ſinging, ſhee by and by aroſe, and in ſeemely ſort attyring her ſelfe, ſhe came into the worke-ſhop, and ſat her downe to make quills. Quoth Iohn, Good morrow Dame, how do you to day? God a mercie Iohn (quoth ſhee) euen as well as I may: for I was ſore troubled in my Dreames. Shee thought two Doues walked together in a corne field, the one (as it were) in communication with the other, without regard of picking vp any thing to ſuſtaine themſelues: and after they had with many nods ſpent ſome time to their content, they both fell hard, with their pretie bils, to picke vp the ſcattered corne, left by the mowers Mea-

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ſtocke ſtanding one of the Geeſe about the neck, and ſeeing Gratis the ſhepheard abuſing her, in abhominable ſort (ſubmitting the loſſe of Nature) could by no meanes beare that abuſe, but watching opportunity for reuenge, on a time found the ſaid ſhepheard ſleeping in the field, and ſuddenly running againſt him in ſuch violent ſort, that by the force of his two fierce hornes, hee beat the hornes out of the ſhepheards head and ſlewe him. If then a ſheepe could not endure that iniurie, thinke not that women are ſo ſheepiſh to ſuffer it. Beleeue mee (quoth Iohn) if euery horne-maker ſhould be ſo plagued by a horned beaſt, there ſhould bee leſſe hornes made in Newberie by many in a yeare. But Dame (quoth hee) to make an end of this prattle, becauſe it is an argument too deepe to be diſcuſſed betweene you and I, you ſhall heare me ſing an olde ſong, and ſo mee will depart to ſupper.

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Neuer to beare a iealous minde.

(quoth ſhe) then haſt no reaſon to ſhew any diſcurteſie to me in that matter, although ſome of our neighbours be not ſtick to ſay, that I am ſure to thee alreadie. If it were ſo (quoth Iohn) there is no cauſe to denie it, or to bee aſhamed thereof, knowing my ſelfe farre vnworthie of ſo high a fauour. Well let this paſſe (quoth ſhee, and take there thy quils, for it is time for me to goe to market.

Thus the matter reſted for two or three dayes, in which ſpace ſhe daily deuiſed which way ſhee might obtaine her deſire, which was to marrie her man. Many things came in her head, and ſundrie ſleights in her minde, but none of them did fit her fancie, ſo that ſhee became wondrous ſad, and as ſtill as the nine Sibbels, and in this melancholie humour continued three weekes, or a moneth, till at laſt it was her lucke vpon a Bartholmew day (hauing a Fayre in the towne to ſpie her man Iohn giue a paire of Glaues to a proper maide for a Fayring, which the maiden with a baſhfull modeſtie kindly accepted, and requited it with a kiſſe: which kindled in her an inward iealouſie: but not withſtanding very diſcreetly ſhee couered it, and cloſely paſt along vnſpied of her man or the maid.

Shee had not gone farre but ſhee met with one of her ſutors namely the Taylor, who was verie fine and brithe in his apparell, and needes hee would buſſe the mine vpon the Widow: and after ſome faint deniall, meeting with a Goſſip of hers to the Tauerne they went, which was more curteſie than the Taylor could euer get of her before, ſhewing her ſelfe verie pleaſant and merrie: and finding her in ſuch a pleaſing humour, the Tailor after a new quart of wine renewed his old ſuit: the Widow with patience heard him, and gently anſwered, that in reſpect of his great good will long time borne vnto her, as alſo in regard of his gentleneſſe coſt and curteſie, at that preſent beſtowed, ſhee would not flatly denie him. Therefore (quoth ſhee) ſeeing this is not a place to conclude of ſuch matters: if I may intreate you to come to my poore houſe on Thurſday next, you ſhall bee heartily welcome, and be further ſatisfied of my minde: and thus

preferred to a touch of her lips, has payed the shot and departed. The Lapis was scant out of sight, when shee met with the Tanner: who albeit hee was aged, yet lustily he saluted her, and to the wine shee must, there was no nay. The Widdow seeing his importunacie, calles her gossip, and along they walked together. The olde man called for wine plentie, and the best cheere in the house: and in brtte manner hee bidden the Widow welcome. They had not sitten long, but in comes a troupe of Musitions in tawnie coates, who (putting off their caps) asked if they would have any Musicke. The Widow answered no, they were merrie enough. Tut quoth the oldeman, let us heare good fellowes what you can doe, and play mee The beginning of the World. Alas, quoth the widow, you had neede to harken to heading of the world. Why Widowe, quoth hee, I tell thee the beginning of the world was the begetting of Children: and if you finde mee faultie in that occupation, turne mee out of thy bed for a bungler, and then send for the Sexton. Hee had no sooner spoke the word, but the Parson of Speen with his corner cap, popt in at the doore, who seeing the widow sitting at the table craued pardon and came in. Quoth shee, for want of the Sexton, heere is the Parish if you need him. Mary (quoth the Tanner) in good time, for by this meanes wee neede not goe farre to bee married. Sir quoth the Parson, I shall doe my best in convenient place. Wherein, quoth the Tanner? To wed her my selfe quoth the Parson. Nay soft, sayde the Widow, one Swallow makes not a Summer, nor one meeting a marriage: as I lighted on you vnlookt for, so came I hither vnprouided for the purpose. I trust quoth the Tanner, you came not without your eyes to see, your tongue to speake, your eares to heare, your hands to feele, nor your legs to goe. I brought my eyes, quoth she, to discerne colours, my tongue to say No to questions I like not, my hands to thrust from me the things I loue not, my eares to abridge them flatterie, & friendship, & my feet to run from such as would woe me. Why then quoth the Parson by your gesture heere in this place, it is evident that here are none but theefe you loue?

loue. God ſaue (quoth I) ſhould hate my friends (quoth the Widow) whom I take all theſe in this place to bee. But, there be diuers ſorts of loues, quoth the Parſon. You ſay truth, quoth the Widow: I loue your ſelfe for your profeſſion, and my friend the Tanner, for his curteſie and kindneſſe, and the reſt for their good company. Yet (quoth the Parſon) in the explaining of your loue, I pray you drinke to them you loue beſt in the company. Why (quoth the Tanner) haue you any hope in her loue? Beleeue me (ſaith the Parſon) as much as another. Why then Parſon ſit downe, ſaid the Tanner: for, you that are equall with mee in loue, ſhall ſurely be halfe with mee in the ſhotte: and ſo Widow, an God ſaue ſhall fulfill the Parſons requeſt. Seeing (quoth the Widow) you are ſo pleaſantly bent, if my courteſie might not breede contention betweene you, and that I may haue your fauour to ſerue my turne, I will fulfill your requeſt. Quoth the Parſon, I am pleaſed howſoeuer it bee. And I, quoth the Tanner. Why then (quoth ſhee) with this cup of Claret wine and ſugar, I heartily drinke to the Minſtrels boy. Why, ſaid ſhee you loue beſt, quoth the Parſon? I haue reaſon, ſaid ſhee, to like and loue them beſt, that will bee leaſt offended with my beings. Nay Widow (quoth they) wee meant you ſhould drinke to him whom you loued beſt in the way of marriage. Quoth the Widow, you ſhould haue ſaid ſo at firſt: but, to tell you my opinion, it is ſmall diſcretion for a woman to diſcloſe her ſecret affection in an open aſſembly: therefore, if to that purpoſe you ſpake, let mee intreat you both to come home to my houſe on Thurſday next, where you ſhall be heartily welcome, and there be fully reſolued of my mind: and ſo, with thankes at this time, I take my leaue. The ſhot being paid, and the Muſitians pleaſed, they all departed, the Tanner to Wallingford, the Parſon to Speen, and the Widow to her owne houſe: where in her moſt ſolemne ſhee ſetted her ſelfe to her buſineſſe.

Against Thurſday ſhee dreſſed her houſe fine and cleane, and ſet her ſelfe in her beſt apparell: the Taylor making forgetting his promiſe ſent to the Widowe a goodly Pigge, and a Goole,

Goods. The Parſon hearing as mirrefull as hee, ſent to her houſe a couple of fat Rabbets and a Capon: and the Tanner came himſelfe and brought a good ſhoulder of Mutton, and halfe a dozen Chickens, beſides hee brought a good gallon of Sacke, and halfe a pound of the beſt ſugar. The Widowe receiuing this good meate, ſet her maide to dreſſe it incontinent, and when dinner time drew neere, the Table was couered, and euery other thing prouided in conuenient and comely ſort.

At length the gueſts being come, the Widow bad them all heartily welcome. The Prieſt and the Tanner ſeeing the Taylor, maruelled what hee made there: the Taylor on the other ſide, maruelled as much at their preſence. Thus looking ſtrangely one at another, at length the widow came out of the kitchin, in a faire ſtraite gowne ſuche full of fluer pinnes, a fine white cap on her head, with cuts of curious needle worke vnder the ſame, and an apron before her as white as the driuen ſnow: then beeing modeſtly making curteſie to them all, ſhee requeſted them to ſit downe. But they ſtraining curteſie the one with the other, the Widow with a ſmiling countenance, tooke the Parſon by the hand ſaying: Sir, as you ſtand higheſt in the Church, ſo is it meet you ſhould ſit higheſt at the Table: and therefore I pray you ſit downe there on the bench ſide. And ſir ſaid ſhee to the Tanner, as age is to bee honoured before youth for their experience, ſo are they to ſit aboue Batchelers for their grauitie, and ſo ſhe ſet him beneath on this ſide the Table, euen againſt the Parſon. Then comming to the Taylor ſhee ſayd: Batchelor, though your lot bee the laſt, your welcome is equall with the firſt, and ſeeing your place pointes out it ſelfe, I pray you take a cuſhion and ſit downe. And now (quoth ſhee) to make the boord equall, and becauſe it hath beene an old ſaying, that three things are to ſmall purpoſe, if the fourth be wanting: if it may ſtand with your fauours, I will call in a Goſſip of mine to ſupplie this voide place. With a good will quoth they. With that ſhee brought in an olde woman with leane euer a good teeth in her head, and placed her right againſt

the Bachelor. Then was the meate brought to the boorde in due order by the Widowes ſeruants, her man Iohn beeing chiefe ſeruitor. The Widowe ſate downe at the Tables end betweene the Parſon and the Tanner, who in very good ſort carued meate for them all, her man Iohn waiting on the table.

After they had ſitten a while, and well refreſhed themſelues, the Widowe taking a Chriſtall glaſſe fild with claret Wine, dranke vnto the whole company, and bade them welcome. The Parſon pledged her, and ſo did all the reſt in their order; but ſtill in their company the cup paſt ouer the poore olde Womans nose: inſomuch that at length the olde Woman (in a merrie veine) ſpake thus vnto the company: I haue had much good meate among you, but as for the drinke I can no thing commend it. Alas good Goſſip (quoth the Widowe) I perceiue no man hath dranke to thee yet. Ye truly quoth the old Woman, for Churchmen haue ſo much minde of young Rabbets, old men ſuch mis in young Chickens, and Bachelors in Pigs fleſh take ſuch delight, that an olde Hen, a tough Henne, or a gray Coney are not accepted: and ſo it is ſeene by mee, elſe I ſhould haue beene better remembred. Well olde woman quoth the Parſon, take heere the leg of a Capon to ſtop thy mouth. Now by S. Anne feare not, quoth ſhe. Feare wherefore ſaid the Parſon? Marie for feare leaſt you ſhould goe home with a Crutch, quoth ſhee. The Taylor ſaid, then take heere a peece of Gooſe. Now God forbid, ſayde the old Woman, let Gooſe goe to his kinde: you haue a young ſtomache, eate it your ſelfe, and much good may it doo your hart ſweet young man. The old woman lacks moſt of her teeth, quoth the Tanner, and therefore a peece of tender Chicke is fitteſt for her. If I did lacke as many of my teeth, quoth the olde woman, as you lacke points of good husbandrie, I doubt I ſhould ſtarue before it were long. At this the Widowe laught heartily, and the men were ſtricken into ſuch a dumpe, that they had not a word to ſay. Dinner being ended, the widowe with the reſt roſe from the Table, and after they had ſitten a pretie while merrily talking, the Widowe called

called her man Iohn to bring her a bottle of fresh ale, which hee did. Then sayd the Widow: My masters, now for your curtesie and cost I heartily thanke you all, and in requitall of all your fauour, loue and good-will, I drinke to you, giuing you free libertie when you please to depart. At these words her suters looked so sowrely one vpon another, as if they had beene newly champing of Crabs which when the Taylor heard, shaking vp himselfe in his new russet Ierkin, and setting his hat on one side, hee began to speake thus. I trust sweete widow (quoth hee) you remember to what ende my comming was hither to day, I haue long time beene a suter vnto you, and this day you promised to giue me a direct answer. Tis true, quoth shee, and so I haue: for your loue I giue you thankes, and when you please you may depart. Shall I not haue you sais the Taylor? Alas (quoth the Widow) you come too late. Good friend (quoth the Tanner) it is manners for young men to let their elders bee serued before them: to what end should I bee here if the widow should haue three flat denialls in meete for a sauncte suter: but what saist thou to mee faire widow (quoth the Tanner)? Sir said shee, because you are so sharp set, I would with you as soone as you can to wed. Appoint the time your self quoth the Tanner. Euen aboone (quoth shee) as you can get a Wife, and hope not after mee, for I am already promised. Nay Tanner you may take your place with the Taylor, quoth the Parson, for indeede the Widow is for no man but my selfe. Maister Parson (quoth shee) many haue runne neere the goale, and yet lost the game, and I cannot helpe it though your hope bee in vaine: besides, Parsons are but newly inforced to haue wiues, and for my part I will haue none of the first head. What (quoth the Taylor) is our merriment growne to this reckoning? I neuer spent a Pig and a Goose to so bad purpose before: I promise you when I came in, I verily thought that you were inuited by the Widowe to make her and me sure together, and that the iolly Tanner was brought to bee a witnesse to the contract, and the old Woman fetcht in for the same purpose; else I would

neuer haue put vp ſo many diſ bobs at her hands. And ſure-ly quoth the Tanner, I knowing thee to bee a Taylor, did aſſuredly think that thou waſt appointed to come and take meaſure for our weedding apparell. But now we are all de-termined quoth the Parſon, and therefore as wee came fooles, ſo wee may depart hence like aſſes. That is as you interpret the matter, ſaid the Widow: for I euer doubting that a con-cluding anſwer would breede a iarre in the end among you euery one, I thought it better to bee done at one inſtant, and in mine owne houſe, then at ſundry times and in common Tauernes: and as for the meate you ſent, as it was vnre-queſted of mee, ſo had you your part thereof, and if you think good to take home the remainder, prepare your wallets and you ſhall haue it. Nay Widow quoth they, although wee haue loſt our labours, wee haue not altogether loſt our manners: that, which you haue keepe, and God ſend to bs better lucke, and to you your hearts deſire, and with that they departed.

The Widow being glad ſhee was thus rid of her gueſtes, when her man Iohn with all the reſt ſate at ſupper, ſhe ſitting in a chaire by, ſpake thus vnto them. Well my maſters, you ſaw that this day your poore Dame had her choiſe of huſ-bands, if ſhee had liſted to marrie, and ſuch as would haue lo-ued and maintained her like a woman. Tis true quoth Iohn, and I pray God you haue not withſtoode your beſt fortune. Truſt me (quoth ſhee) I knew not, but if I haue I may thank mine owne foolliſh fancie.

Thus it paſt on from Bartholomewtide, till it was neere Chriſtmas, at what time the weather was ſo wonderfull cold, that all the running Riuers round about the Towne were frozen very thicke. The Widowe beeing very loath any longer to lie without companie, in a colde winters night made a great fire, and ſent for her man Iohn: hauing alſo pre-pared a chaire and a cuſhion, ſhee made him ſit downe there-in, and ſending for a pinte of good Sacke, they both went to ſupper.

In the ende bed time comming on, ſhee cauſed her maide

in

in a merriment to plucke off his hose and shoes, and caused him to bee laide in his masters best bed, standing in the best Chamber, hung round about with very faire curtaines. Iohn being thus preferred, thought himselfe a Gentleman, and lying soft, after his hard labour and a good supper, quickly fell asleepe.

About midnight, the Widow being cold on her feet, crept into her mans bed to warme them. Iohn feeling one lift vp the clooathes, asked who was there? O good Iohn it is I, quoth the widow, the night is so extreame colde, and my Chamber walles so thin, that I am like to be starued in my bed: wherefore rather then I would any way hazard my health, I thought it much better to come hither and trie your curtesie, to haue a little roome beside you.

Iohn being a kind young man would not say her nay, and so they spent the rest of the night both together in one bed. In the morning betime shee rose vp and made her selfe ready, and willed her man Iohn to runne and fetch her a Link with all speede: for quoth shee, I haue earnest businesse to do this morning. Her man did so. Which done shee made him to carrie the Linke before her, vntill she came to Saint Bartholomewes Chappell, where Sir Iohn the Priest with his Clark and Sexton, stoode waiting for her. Iohn quoth shee, turne into the Chappell, for before I goe further, I will make my prayers to S. Bartholomew, so shall I speed the better in my businesse. When they were come in, the Priest according to his order came to her, and asked where the Bridegroome was? Quoth she, I thought he had beene here before me. Sir (quoth shee) I will sit downe and say ouer my beades, and by that time hee will come. Iohn mused at this matter, to see that his Dame should so sodainly bee married, and hee hearing nothing thereof before. The Widowe rising from her prayers, the Priest tolde her that the Bridegreeme was not yet come. Is it true, quoth the widow, I promise you I will stay no longer for him if he were as good as George a Greene and therefore dispatch quoth shee, and marrie me to my man

Iohn. Why Dame (quoth he) you doe but ieſt I troſſe. Iohn (quoth ſhee) I teſt not: for ſo I meane it ſhall bee, and ſtand not ſtrangely, but remember that you did promiſe mee on your faith not to hinder mee, when I came to the Church to bee married, but rather to ſet it forward: therefore ſet your ſhirt aſide and giue mee your hand, for none but you ſhall be my husband. Iohn ſeeing no remedy conſented, becauſe he ſaw the matter could not otherwiſe bee amended; and married they were preſently. When they were come home, Iohn entertained his Dame with a kiſſe: which the other ſeruants ſeeing, thought him ſomething sawcie. The Widow cauſed the beſt cheere in the houſe to bee ſet on the Table, and to breakfaſt they went, cauſing her new husband to bee ſet in a chaire at the Tables end, with a faire napkin laid on his trencher: then ſhee called out the reſt of her ſeruants, willing them to ſit downe and take part of their good cheere. They wondring to ſee their fellow Iohn ſit at the Tables end in their old maſters chaire, began heartily to ſmile, and openly to laugh at the matter, eſpecially becauſe their Dame ſo kindly ſate by his ſide: which ſhee perceiuing, aſked if that were all the manners they could ſhew before their maſter: I tell you quoth ſhee, he is my husband, for this morning we were maried, and therefore hence forward looke you acknowledge your duty towardes him. The folkes looked one vpon another, marueiling at this ſtrange newes. Which when Iohn perceiued, hee ſaid: My maſters muſe not at all: for although by Gods prouidence and your Dames fauour, I am preferred from being your fellow to bee your Maſter, I am not thereby ſo much puft vp in pride, that any way I will forget my former eſtate: Notwithſtanding, ſeeing I am now to holde the place of a Maſter, it ſhall bee wiſedome in you to forget what I was, and to take mee as I am; and in doing your diligence, you ſhall haue no cauſe to repent that God made mee your maſter. The ſeruants hearing this, as alſo knowing his good gouernment before time, paſt their yeares with him in dutifull manner.

The

The next daie the report was over all the Towne, that Iacke of Newbery had married his Dame: so that when the Woman walked abroad, euery one had God giue her ioy: some said that shee was matcht to her fortune, saying, that in: lustie a young man as he, would neuer loue her being so auncient. Whereupon the Woman made answer, that shee would take him downe in his wedding shooes, and wouldestrie his patience in the prime of his lustinesse: whereunto many of her Gossips did likewise encourage her. Euery daie therefore for the space of a moneth after shee was married, it was her ordinarie custome, to goe forth in the morning among her gossips and acquaintance to make merrie, and not to returne home till night, without any regarde of her household. Of which, at her comming home, her husband did very oftentimes admonish her in very gentle sort, shewing what great inconuenience would grow thereby: the which sometime shee would take in gentle part, and sometime in disdaine, saying;

I am now in very good case, that hee which was my seruant but the other day, will now bee my master; this it is for a Woman to make her foot her head. The day hath been when I might haue gone forth when I would, and come in againe when it had pleased me without controulement: & now I must bee subiect to euery Iackes checke. I am sure (quoth she) that by my gadding abroad, and carelesse spending I waste no goods of thine. I pittying thy pouertie, made thee a man, and maister of the house, but not to the end I should become thy slaue. I sweare, I tel thee true, that such a youngling as thy selfe should correct my conceit, and giue mee instructions, as if I were not able to guide my selfe: but plaith plaith, you shall not vse me like a babe, nor bridle me like an Asse: and seeing my going abroad greeues thee, where I haue gone forth one day I will goe abroad three, and for one houre I will stay fiue. Well (quoth her husband) I trust you will be better aduised: and with that hee went from her about his businesse, leauing her sweating in her fashion: furies.

Thus

Thus the time paſt on, till on a certaine day ſhee had beene abroad in her wonted maner, and ſtaying forth very late he ſhut the doores and went to bed. About midnight ſhee comes to the doore and knockes to come in: to whom he looking out of the window, anſwered in this ſort.

What, is it you that keepes ſuch a knocking? I pray you get hence and requeſt the Conſtable to prouide you a bed, for this night, you ſhall haue no lodging heere. I hope quoth ſhee, you will not ſhut me out of doores like a dogge, or let me lie in the ſtreetes like a ſtrumpet. Whether like a dogge or drab, quoth hee, all is one to me, knowing no reaſon but that as you haue ſtayed out all day for your delight, ſo you may lie forth all night for my pleaſure. Both birds and beaſtes at the nights approach prepare to their reſt, and obſerue a conuenient time to returne to their habitation. Looke but vpon the poore ſpider, the frogge, the flie, and euery other ſlie worme, and you ſhall ſee all theſe obſerue time to returne to their home: and if you being a woman will not doe the like, content your ſelfe to beare the brunt of your owne folly, and ſo farewell.

The Woman hearing this, made pitious moane, and in meeke humble ſort intreated him to let her in, and to pardon this offence, and whilſt ſhee liued vowed neuer to doe the like. Her husband at length being moued with pittie towardes her, ſlipt on his ſhooes and came downe in his ſhirt: the doore being opened, in ſhee went quaking, as ſhe was about to locke it againe, in very ſorrowfull manner ſhe ſaid; Alacke husband, what hap haue I? My wedding Ring was euen now in my hand, and I haue let it fall about the doore, good ſweet Iohn come forth with the Candle and help mee to ſeeke it. The man incontinent did ſo, and whilſt hee ſought for that which was not there to bee found, ſhee whipt into the houſe, and quickly clapping to the doore, ſhe lockt her husband out. He good calling with the candle in his hand to come in, but ſhee made as if ſhee heard not. Anon ſhee went vp into her chamber, and carried the key with her: but when hee ſawe ſhe would not anſwere, he preſently began to knock as lowd

as

as bee could at the doore. At laſt ſhee thruſt her head out at the window, ſaying: who is there? Tis I quoth Iohn, what meancyou by this? I pray you come downe and open the doore that I may come in.

What Sir, quoth ſhee, is it you? haue you nothing to doe but daunce about the ſtreetes at this time of night, and like a ſpirit of the Waſterie hunt after Crickets, are you ſo hot that the houſe cannot hold you? Nay I pray thee, ſweet heart quoth he doe not gibe any longer, but let me in. O Sir, remember her quoth ſhe, how you ſtood euen now at the window, like a Iudge on the bench, and in taunting ſort kept me out of my owne houſe. How now Iacke, am I euen with you? What Iohn my man, were you ſo luſtie to lock your Dame out of doores? Sirra, remember you bad me goe to the Conſtable to get lodging: naie you haue leaſure to trie if his wife will preferre you to a bed. You Sir ſhawce, that made me ſtand in the colde till my feete did ſtoope, and my teeth chatter, whiles you ſtood preaching of birds and beaſts telling mee a tale of ſpiders, flyes, and frogges: goe trie now if any of them will be ſo kinde to let thee haue lodging. Why go you not man? feare not to ſpeake with them, for I am ſure you ſhall finde them at home: thinke not they are ſuch libbaldes as you, to bee abroad at this time of night.

With this, Iohns patience was greatly moued, inſomuch that hee deeply ſware that if ſhee would not let him in hee would breake downe the doore. Why Iohn quoth ſhe, you needs not bee ſo hot, your clothing is not ſo warme: and becauſe I thinke this will bee a warning vnto you againſt another time how you ſhut mee out of my houſe, catch, there is the key, come in at thy pleaſure, and looke you go to bed to your fellowes, for with mee thou ſhalt not lie to night. With that ſhee clapt to the caſement, and got her to bedde, locking the chamber doore faſt. Her husband that knew it was in vaine to ſeeke to come into her Chamber, and beeing no longer able to endure the colde, got him a place among his Prentices, and there ſlept ſoundly. In the morning his wife

eaſe bettime, and merrily made him a Cawdell, and bringing it vp to his bed, aſked him how he did.

Maiſter Iohn, troubled with a ſhrewe, who the longer ſhe liues the worſe ſhee is: and as the people of Illyria kill men with their breath, ſo ſhee kils her husbands hart with vnkeward conditions. But truſt mee, wife quoth hee, ſeeing I finde you of ſuch crooked qualities, that (like the Spider) ye turne the ſweete flowers of good counſell into venemous poyſon, from henceforth I will leaue you to your owne willfulnes, and neither vexe my minde nor trouble my ſelfe to reſtraine you: the which if I had wiſely done laſt night, I had kept the houſe in quiet, and my ſelfe from cold. Husband (quoth ſhee) thinke that women are like Starlings, that will burſt their gall before they will yeelde to the Fowler: or like the fiſh Scolopendra, that cannot be touched without danger. Notwithſtanding, as the hard ſteele doth yeelde to the hammers ſtroke, being vſed to his kinde, ſo will women to their husbands, where they are not too much croſt. And ſeeing yee haue ſworne to giue mee my will, I bidde likewiſe that my wilfulneſſe ſhall not offend you. I tell you husband, the noble nature of a woman is ſuch, that for their loving friends they will not ſticke (like the Pellican) to pearce their owne hearts to doo them good. And therefore forgiuing each other all iniuries paſt, hauing alſo tried one anothers patience, let vs quench theſe burning coales of contention, with the ſweete iuice of a faithfull kiſſe, and ſhaking hands, bequeath all our anger to the eating vp of this Cawdle. Her husband courteouſly conſented: and after this time, they liued long together, in moſt goodly, louing and kind ſort, till, in the end ſhe died, leauing her husband wondrous wealthie.

Of

# of Iacke of Newbery.

CHAP.

Of Iacke *of* Newbery *his great wealth, and number of ſeruants : and alſo how hee brought the Queen* Katherin *two hundred and fifty men prepared for the warre at his owne coſt againſt the King of Scots at* Flodden *field.*

NOw Iacke of Newberie beeing a widower, had the choiſe of many Wiues, mens daughters of good credit and widowes of great wealth. Notwithſtanding he bent his onely loue to one of his owne ſeruants, whom hee had tried in the guiding of his houſe a yeere or two: and knowing her carefull in her buſineſſe, faithfull in her dealing, and an excellent good huſwife, thought it better to haue her with nothing, than ſome other with much treaſure. And beſides, on her qualities were good, ſo was ſhe of very comely perſonage, of a ſweete fauour, and faire complexion. In the end hee opened his mind vnto her, and craued her good will. The maid (though ſhee tooke this motion kindly) ſaid ſhee would do nothing without conſent of her Parents. Whereupon a Letter was writ to her Father, being a poore man dwelling at Aſtebury in Buckinghamſhire: who being ioyfull of his daughters good fortune, ſpeedily came to Newbery, where of her maſter he was friendly entertained: who after hee had made him good cheer, ſhewes him all his ſeruants at worke, and euery office in his houſe.

Within one roome being large and long,
There ſtood two hundred Looms full ſtrong:
Two hundred men, the truth is ſo,
Wrought in theſe Looms all in a rowe.
By euery one a prety boy,
Sate making quils with mickle ioie.
And in another place hard by,
An hundred women merrily,
Were carding hard with myrth full cheere,

taſte bettime, and merrily made him a Caudell, and bringing it vp to his bed, aſked him how he did.

Quoth Iohn, troubled with a ſhrewe, who the longer ſhe liues the worſe ſhee is: and as the people of Illyria kill men with their breath, ſo ſhee kils her husbands hart with vntoward conditions. But truſt mee, wife quoth hee, ſeeing I finde you of ſuch crooked qualities, that (like the ſpyder) ye turne the ſweete flowers of good counſell into venemous poyſon, from henceforth I will leaue you to your own willfulnes, and neither vexe my minde nor trouble my ſelfe to reſtraine you: the which if I had wiſely done laſt night, I had kept the houſe in quiet, and my ſelfe from cold. Husband (quoth ſhee) thinke that women are like ſtarlings, that will burſt their gall before they will yeelde to the Fowler: as like the fiſh Scolopendra, that cannot be touched without danger. Notwithſtanding, as the hard ſteele doth yeelde to the hammers ſtroke, being vſed to his kinde, ſo will women to their husbands, where they are not too much croſt. And ſeeing yee haue ſworne to giue mee my will, I holde likewiſe that my willfulneſſe ſhall not offend you. I tell you husband, the noble nature of a woman is ſuch, that for their louing friends they will not ſticke (like the Pellican) to pearce their owne hearts to doo them good. And therefore forgiuing each other all iniuries paſt, hauing alſo tried one anothers patience, let vs quench theſe burning coales of contention, with the ſweete iuice of a faithfull kiſſe, and ſhaking hands, bequeath all our anger to the eating vp of this Caudle. Her husband curteouſly conſented: and after this time, they liued long together, in moſt godly, louing and kind ſort, till, in the end ſhe died, leauing her husband wondrous wealthie.

He kept a Butcher all the the yeere,
A Baxter eke for Ale and Beere:
A Baker for to bake his bread,
Which fed his houſhold in good ſtead.
Fine Cookes within his kitchin greet,
Were all the yeere to dreſſe his meate.
Six ſcullian boyes vnto their hands,
To make cleane diſhes, pots and pans:
Beſide poore children that did ſtay,
To turne the broaches euery day.
The olde man that did ſee this ſight,
Was much amaz'd, as well he might:
This was a gallant Cloothier ſure,
Whoſe fame for euer ſhall endure.

When the olde man had ſeene this great houſhold and family, then hee was brought into the Ware-houſes, ſome being full with wooll, ſome with flockes, ſome with woad and madder, and ſome with broad cloathes and kerſies ready dyed and dreſt, beſides a great number of others, ſome ſtretcht on the Tenters, ſome hanging on poles, and a great many more lying wet in other places. Sir (quoth the olde man) I ſee the yee bee abominable rich, and cham content you ſhall haue my daughter, and Gods bleſſing and mine light on you both.

But Father (quoth Iack of Newbery) what will you beſtow with her? Marry haue you (quoth the old man) I beſeech cham but a poore man, but I thong God, cham of good eſtimation among my neighbours, and they will as ſoone take my bee for any thing as a richer mans: thicke I will beſtow, you ſhall haue with a good will: becauſe the bee are very good condemnation of you in euery place, therefore chill giue you twenty Nobles and a weaning Calfe, and when I dye and my Wife, you ſhall haue the reuelation of all my goods.

When Iack heard his offer hee was ſtraight content, making more reckning of the womans modeſtie, than her Fathers money. So the marriage day beeing appointed, all

things were prepared meet for the wedding, and royal cheere ordained; moſt of the Lordes, Knights, and Gentlemen thereabout, were invited thereunto: the Bride being attired in a Gowne of ſcarlet ruſſet, and a kertle of fine worſted, her head attired with a billiment of gold, and her haire as yellow as golde hanging behinde her, which was curiouſly combd and plaited; according to the manner in thoſe dayes, ſhee was led to Church betweene two ſweet boyes, with Bride laces & Rolemary tied about their ſilken ſleeves, the one of them was ſonne to Sir Thomas Pierce, the other to Sir Francis Hungerford. Then went before them Muſicke ring of ſilver and gilt ſtaves before her, wherein hung a goodly branch of Rolemary gilded very richly, being ſtuck with divers Ribbons of all colours: next went Gentlewomen of Muſicians that played all the way before her: after came all the chiefeſt maydens of the Countrie, three bearing great Waxe Candles, and three Garlands of Paper-work gilded, and ſo they paſt into the Church.

This needleſſe ſhall I make any mention heere of the Bridegroome: whoſe being a man of well belooued, wanted no company, and thoſe of the beſt ſort, for the moſt part Merchant Strangers of the Saltyard, that came from London to the Wedding. The marriage being ſolemnized, home they came in order as before, and to dinner they went, where was no want of good cheere, no lacke of melodie: Rhennish Wine at this wedding was as plentifull as Beere or Ale, for the Merchants had ſent thither ten Tunnes of the beſt in the Saltyard.

This wedding endured ten dayes, to the great reliefe of the poore, that dwelt all about: and in the ende the Brides Father and Mother came to pay their Daughters portion: which when the Bridegroome had received, hee gaue them great thankes: Notwithſtanding hee would not ſuffer them yet to depart: and againſt they ſhould goe home, their ſonne in law came vnto them, ſaying: Father, and Mother, all the thankes that my poore heart can yeeld, I giue you for your good will, coſt, and curteſie, and while I liue make bolde to

vſe

worne in any thing that I am able, and in requitall of the gift you gaue me with your daughter, I giue you here twenty pounds in ſtocke as you ſtand ſtanding; and ſix pound loſſe of time, and charges riding vp and downe, I giue you here as much broade cloath as ſhall make you a cloake: my maſter a iolly yeoman, and when this is worne out, come to me and tell me.

O my good yeoman (quoth the old woman) Chriſtes benizon bee with thee euermore, to tell thee true, we had gold at our houſe to make money of, my Daughters marriage, and this yeomanry we ſhould not haue been able to buy meate: but with ſtanding loſe ſhould haue gain all thatever we had, before my poore wench ſhould haue loſt her marriage. I (quoth the olde woman) thanke you gaue it me vnaſked, and my God ſtore vnder me, before my Girle ſhould haue gone without you. I thank you good ſir and mother, ſaid the Wife, and I pray God long to keep you in health: then the Wife kneeled before, & bleſſed her duties to her Parents, who weeping for ioy, departed.

Not long after this, it chaunced whilſt our Noble King was making warres in France, that Iames, king of Scotland, baſely breaking his oath, inuaded England with a great army and did much hurt vpon the Borders: whereupon an Edict being ſtraitly made was appointed according to his abilitie to be ready with his men and furniture at an houres warning, on paine of death. Iacke of Newberie was commanded by the Iuſtices to ſet out fiue men, ſome armed with Pikes and fiue Calliuers, & to meete the Queene in Buckinghamſhire, who was there raiſing a great power to goe againſt the faithleſſe king of Scots.

When Iacke had receiued this charge, hee came home in all haſte, and cut out a whole broadcloth for hoſiemens coates, and ſo much more as would make vp coates for the number of a hundred men: in ſhort time hee had made readie fiftie tall men well mounted in white coates, and red caps with yellowe Feathers, Swordes in their hands, and fiftie armed

rounde vnder ſet with Pikes, and fifty ſhot in white coats alſo, euery man ſo expert in the handling of his weapon, as ſcarce better were found in the field. Himſelfe likewiſe in compleat armour on a goodly Barbed Horſe, rode formoſt of the companie, with a launce in his hand, and a faire plume of pelado feathers in his creſt, and in this ſort her came before the Iuſtices: who at the firſt approach did not a little wonder what he ſhould be.

At length when he had diſcouered what he was, the Iuſtices and moſt of the Gentlemen gaue him great commendations for this his good and forward mind ſhewed in this action: but ſome other enuying his creſt, gaue out words that he ſhewed himſelfe more prodigall then politique; and more vaine glorious then well aduiſed, ſeeing that the beſt Gentleman in the Countrie ſhould ſcarce haue done ſo much: and no marueil (quoth they) for ſuch a one would call to his remembrance, that the King hath often occaſions to vſe his ſubiects to ſuch charges, and therefore ought to be at one time as they might bee able to doe at another: but Iacke of Newbery, like the Stockdoue by Springtime, thinks the higheſt Cedar too lowe for him to build his neſt in, and ere the yeare be halfe done may perhaps not haue his hall in abouſe.

Theſe and ſuch like ſpeeches being at laſt brought to Iacke of Newberies eare, though it grieued him much, yet patiently put them vp till time conuenient. Within a while after, all the Woolmen in Barkſhire, Hampſhire, & Wilſhire, were commanded to repaire themſelues before the Queene at Stonny Stratford, where her Grace with many Lords, Knights, and Gentlemen were aſſembled, with threeſcore thouſand men. Againſt Iacke thould go to the Queen, he cauſed his face to be beſmeared with bloud, and his white coate in like manner.

When they were come before her Highneſſe, ſhe demanded (aboue all the reſt) what thoſe white coates were? Whereupon, Sir Henry Eagleſield (who had the leading of the Barkſhire men) made anſwere,

That

# of Iacke of Newbery.

Quoth it pleaſe your Maieſtie to vnderſtand, that hee which ſitteth higheſt there, is called Iacke of Newbery, and all theſe gallant men in white, are his owne ſeruants, who are maintained all the yeare by him, whom hee at his owne coſt hath ſet out in this time of extremitie, to ſerue the King againſt his daunting foe: and I aſſure your Maieſty there is not, in the number, better ſouldiers in the field.

Good Sir Henry (quoth the Queene) bring the man to mee that I may ſee him: which was done accordingly. Then Iacke with all his men alighted, and humbly on their knees fell before the Queene: Her Grace ſaid, Gentlemen ariſe, and putting forth her lilie white hand, gaue it him to kiſſe. Moſt gratious Queene quoth hee, Gentleman I am none, nor the ſeruice of a Gentleman, but a poore Clothier, whoſe lands are but Leaſes, hauing no other Rents but what I get from the backes of little Sheepe, nor can I claime any cognizance but a weauers ſhuttle. Neuertheleſſe, moſt gratious Queene, theſe my poore ſeruants and my ſelfe, with life and goods are ready at your Maieſties commaund, not onely to ſpend our bloods, but alſo to loſe our lines in defence of our King and Country.

Welcome to mee Iacke of Newberie, ſaide the Queene, though a Clothier by trade, yet a Gentleman by condition, and a faithfull ſubiect in heart: and if thou chance to haue any ſuite in Court, make account the queene will bee thy friend, and would to God the King had many ſuch Subiects. But tell mee, how came thy white coate beſmeared with blood, and thy face ſo beſcratcht? May it pleaſe your Grace (quoth hee) to vnderſtand, that it was my chaunce to meete with a Monſter, who like the people Cynomolgi, had the proportion of a man, but headed like a dogge. the biting of whoſe teeth were like the poyſoned teeth of a Crocodile, his breath like the Baſiliſke, killing afarre off. I vnderſtand, his name was Cruſt, who aſſailed mee inuiſibly, like the wicked ſpirit of Mogunce, who flung ſtones at men and could not bee ſeene: and ſo I came by my ſcratcht face, not knowing when it was done. What was the cauſe this monſter

ſhould ſtill thee about the reſt of thy companie, or elſe
mine be thine. Although moſt Soueraigne Queene,
quoth ſhe, this perſonage were worthy a ranſome, and that few can
eſcape the hurt of his ſwoording hande, yet at this time hee
bent his force againſt mee, not for any hurt I did him, but be-
cauſe I ſurpaſt him in hearty affection to my Soueraigne
Lord, and with the poore Widowes almes all I had to ſerue
my Prince and Country. It were happy for England, ſayd
the Queene, if in euery market Towne there were a Gibbet
to hang vp curres of that kinde: for like Æſops doggelying
in the manger, will doe no good themſelfe, nor ſuffer ſuch
as would to doe any.

This ſpeech being ended, the Queene cauſed her Army
to bee ſet in order, and in warlike manner to march toward
Flodden, where King Iames had pitcht his field. But as they
paſſed along with Drum and Trumpet, there came a Poſt
from the valiant Earle of Surrey, with tydings to her Grace,
that now ſhee might diſmiſſe her Army, for that it had plea-
ſed God to grant the noble Earle victorie ouer the Scots:
whome hee had by his wiſedome and valiancie vanquiſht in
fight, and ſlayne their King in battel. Vpon which newes
her Maieſtie diſcharged her forces, and ioyfully tooke her
iourney to London, with a pleaſant countenance, prayſing
God for her famous victorie, and yeelding thankes to all the
Noble Gentlemen and Souldiers for their readineſſe in the
action, giuing many giftes to the Nobilitie, and great re-
wardes to the Souldiers: among whom ſhee hotting forgot
Iacke of Newberie, about whoſe necke ſhee put a rich chaine
of gold: at what time he with all the reſt gaue a great ſhout,
ſaying God ſaue Katherin the noble Queene of England.
Many Noble men of Scotland were taken priſoners at this
battell, and manie more ſlaine: ſo that there neuer came a
greater ſpoile to Scotland than this: for you ſhall vnderſtand
that the Scottiſh King made full account to bee Lord of this
Land, watching opportunitie to bring to paſſe his ſatchelſe
and ſuperfluous practiſe: which was when our King was in
France, at Turney, and Turwin: in regard of which warres,

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ſhould ſtill thee about the reſt of thy company, as other men in the field. Although moſt Soueraigne Queen, quoth hee, this perſonage were worthy a ranſom, and that few can eſcape the hurt of his mounting breath, yet at this time hee bent his force againſt mee, not for any hurt I did him, but becauſe I ſerued him in hearty affection to my Soueraigne Lord, and with the poore Widowes ſtore all I had to ſerue my Prince and Country. It were happy for England, ſayd the Queene, if in euery market Towne there were a Gybbet to hang vp curres of that kind: who like Æſops dogge lying in the manger, will bee no good themſelfe, nor ſuffer ſuch as would if to bee idle.

This ſpeech being ended, the Queene cauſed her Army to bee ſet in order, and in warlike manner to march towards Flodden, where King Iames had pitcht his field. But as they paſſed along with Drum and Trumpet, there came a Poſt from the valiant Earle of Surrey, with tydings to her Grace, that now ſhee might diſmiſſe her Army, for that it had pleaſed God to grant the noble Earle victorie ouer the Scots: whome hee had by his wiſedome and valiancie vanquiſht in fight, and ſlayne their King in battel. Vpon which newes her Maieſtie diſcharged her Forces, and ioyfully tooke her iourney to London, with a pleaſant countenance, praiſing God for her famous victorie, and yeelding thankes to all the Noble Gentlemen and Souldiers for their readineſſe in the action, giuing many gifts to the Nobilitie, and great rewards to the Souldiers: among whom ſhee hearing for got packs of Newberie, about whoſe neckes ſhee put a rich chaine of gold: at what time he with all the reſt gaue a great ſhout, ſaying God ſaue Katherin the noble Queene of England. Many Noble men of Scotland were taken priſoners at this battell, and manie more ſlaine: ſo that there neuer came a greater ſoyle to Scotland than this: for you ſhall vnderſtand that the Scottiſh King made ſmall account to bee Lord of this Land, watching opportunitie to bring to paſſe his faithleſſe and treacherous practiſe: which was when our King was in France, at Turney, and Torwin: in regard of which warres,

the

Chap. III.

How Iacke of Newberie went to receiue the King, as hee went a progreſſe into Barkeſhire: and how hee made him a banquet in his owne houſe.

About the tenth yeere of ſ. kings reign, his Grace made his progreſſe into Barkſhire, against which time Iacke of Newberie clothed 30. ſtill fellowes, being his houſhold ſeruants, in blew coates, faced with ſharrenet, euerie one hauing a good ſword & buckler on his ſhoulder, himſelfe in a plaine ruſſet coate, a paire of white fuſtian breeches, without welts or gards, and ſtockings of the ſame cloth tyed to his knees, which had a great couplet, wherein he ſtucke his pinnes: who knowing the King ſhould come ouer a certaine meadow, neere adioyning to the Towne, got himſelfe thither with all his men; and repairing to a certaine ſmal hill, which was in the fielde, tooke vp his ſtate there, cauſing his men to ſtand round about the ſame with their ſword & buckler. Then the King comming neere the place with the reſt of his Nobilitie, and ſeeing them ſtand with their naked weapons, ſtuft to knowe the cauſe. Garret King at armes was the Meſſenger, who ſpake in this ſort. Good fellowes; the Kings maieſtie would faine to knowe for what cauſe you ſtand heere with your ſword and buckler prepared to fight. Which ſaid, Iacke of Newberie ſtarted vp and made this anſwere. Herrold (quoth he) returne to his Highneſſe, & ſay poore Iacke of Newberie, (who hearing ſome ſparkes of a moſt ill, is chaſen Maiſter of Arms, and heere I ſtand with my weapons and Guard about mee, to defend and keepe thoſe my poore and painefull ſubiects from the force of the idle Watterſpies, their ſworne enemies, leaſt they ſhould diſturbe this quiet Commonwealth, who this Summer ſeaſon are making their iuſtices proiection.

The Messenger returning, tolde his Grace that it was one Iacke of Newbery that stoode there with his men about him to guarde (as they say) a company of Ants, from the furious wrath of the Prince of Butterflies. With this newes the King heartily laughte, saying: Indeede it is no marvel hee stand so well prepared, considering what a terrible tyrant he hath to deale withall. Certainly my Lords (quoth hee) this seemes to bee a pleasant fellow, and therefore we will send to talke with him.

The Messenger being sent, tolde Iack he must come speake with the King. Mary boe, his Grace hath a horse, and I am on foote, therefore will him to come to mee: before that, while I am away, our enemies might come and put my people in hazard as the Scots did England, while our King was in France. How now (quoth the Lambe) how dare the Lambe be so bolde with the Lyon, quoth the Herald? Why quoth hee, if there bee a Lyon in the field, hee cannot a cocke to feare him: and tell his Majestie, hee might thinke me a very bad Governour that would walke alone upon pleasure, and leave my people in perill. Herald (quoth hee) it is written, Hee that hath a charge must looke to it, and so tell thy Lord my King. The Message being done, the King said: My Lords, seeing it will bee no other, wee will ride up to the Emperour of Ants, that is so crueltie in his government. At the Kings approach, Iack of Newbery and his servants put up all their weapons, and with a joyfull cry flung up their caps in token of victorie. Why how now my masters (quoth the King) is your warre ended? Let mee see where is the Lord Generall of this great Campe? With that, Iack of Newberie with all his servants fell on their knees, saying: God save the King of England, whose fight hath put our foes to flight, and brought great peace to the poore labouring people. Trust me (quoth our King) here bee petie follones to fight against Butterflies: I must commend your courage, that dares withstand such mightie gyants. Well dread Soveraigne (quoth Iacke) not long agoe, in my conceit, I saw the most pesident Nation of the Ants, summons their chiefe Peeres to a Parliament, which was

held in the famous citie Dey Dolly, the one and thirtieth day of September: Whereas, by their willdomes, I was chosen their King, at what time diuerse bils of complaint were brought in against diuerse ill members in the Common weale among whome the Spyder was attainted of high treason in their Lets, and therefore was banished for euer from their quiet Kingdome: so was the Grashopper and the Caterpiller, because they were not only idle, but also liued vpon the labours of other men: amongst the rest, the Butterflie was very much mislikt, but some could say euil thing to him because of his golden apparell: who through lustie, vnruly gesture & insolencie, and malapert, that the poore Flies could scarce get an egge into her nest, but he would beate it away, and especially against Easter, which at length he so mislikt. This painted Elie tooke displeasure in the note, and assembled a great many other of his owne coate, by faire words to roote these painefull people out of the land, that he himselfe might bee feared alone them all. (These were proud Butterflies, quoth the King.) Whereupon I with my men (quoth Iacke) prepared our selues to withstand and them till such time as your Highnes royall presence put them to flight.

(Lastly (saide the King) you must think that the Flies is not great. Notwithstanding (quoth Iacke) their gaie goinges make poore men afraid. I perceiue (quoth Cardinall Wolsey) that you being King of Flies, bee carry a great grudge to the Butterflies. I, quoth Iacke, here bee as great foes, as the Foxe and the Snake are friends: for the one of them being subtile, loues the other for his craft: but note I intend to be no longer a prince, because the maiestie of a king hath eclipst my glorie: so that looking like the Peacocke on my blacke feet, makes mee abate my vaine glorious feathers, and humbly I yeeld into his Highnes all my soueraigne rule and dignitie, both of life and goods, casting my weapons at his feete, to doe any seruice wherein his Grace shall commaund me. Well a merry good Iacke (quoth the king) I haue often heard of thee, & this morning I meane to visite the house.

Thus

Thus the King with great delight rode along vntill hee came to the Tower-ſtreete, where a great multitude of people attended, to ſee his Highneſſe: where alſo Queene Katherine with all her traine met him. Thus with great reioycing of the Commons, the King and Queene paſſed along to this iolly Cheapſide houſe, where the good wife of the houſe with fiue beautifull maidens attending on her, preſented the King with a Boothine, moſt richly gilt with gold, and all in Weſt there-in lyeing a Cake curiouſly made by Art, and out of the top of the ſame Cake ſprung a flouriſhing green tree, which bore golden ſlippes, and at the roote thereof lay diuers Serpents, looking to deſtroy it, whom Prudence and Fortitude treade vnder their feete, holding this inſcription in their hands,

Loe here preſented to your Royall ſight,
The figure of a flouriſhing Common-wealth:
Where vertuous ſubiects labour with delight,
And heare the drones to death which liue by ſtealth.
Ambition, Enuie, Treaſon loathſom Serpents bee,
Which ſeeke the downefall of this fruitfull tree.

But Lady Prudence with deep ſearching eye,
Eſpies their ill intended purpoſe doth preuent:
And noble Fortitude ſtanding alwayes nye,
Diſperſeth their power prepar'd with bad intent.
Therefore they fayle that mount by meanes vnmeet,
And ſcaling ſlaues are troden vnder feet.

The King fauourably accepted this Embleme, and receiuing it at the Woomans hands, willed Cardinall Wolſey to looke thereon, commanding it ſhould bee ſent to Windſor Caſtle. This Cardinall was at that time Lord Chancellor of England, and a wonderfull grande Prieſte, by whoſe meanes great bickerings was ſet betwixt the King of England and the French King, the Emperour of Almaine, and diuers other Princes of Chriſtendome, whereby the trafficke of thoſe Merchants was vtterly forbidden, which bred a generall

woe

lues through England, especially among Clothiers: insomuch that hauing no sale for their cloath, they were faine to put a-way many of their people which wrought for them, as hereafter more at large shall be declared.

Then was his Maiestie brought into a great Hall, where foure long Tables stoode readie couered: and passing through that place, the King and Queene came into a faire and large Parlour being about with goodly Tapistrie, where was a Table prepared for his Highnesse and the Queenes Graces. All the foure where the king sate, was couered with broad-cloathes in stead of greene rushes: these were choice peeces of the finest wooll, of an Ayre colour, valued at an hundred pound a cloath, which afterward was giuen to his Maiestie. The king being set with the chiefest of his Councell about him, after a delicate dinner, a sumptuous Banquet was brought in, serued all in gilte: the description whereof were too long for mee to write, and you to read. The great Hall was also filled with Lords, Knights, and Gentlemen, who were attended by no other but the Seruants of the house. The Ladies of Honour and Gentlewomen of the Court were all seated in an other Parlour by themselues: at whole table the maidens of the house did waite in decent sort. The seruing-men by themselues, & the pages, in seat men by themselues, vpon whom the Yeomen did attend most diligently. During the kings abiding in this place, there was no want of delicates: Kentish wine, Claret wine, & Sacke, was as plentifull as small Ale. Then from the highest to the lowest, they were serued in such sort, as no discontent was found a-mie waie, so that great commendations redounded vnto the Good-man of the house. The L. Cardinall that of late found himselfe gall'd by the Allegorie of the Ants, spake in this wise to the King. If it would please your Highnesse (quoth he) but to note the braine glozy of these Artificers, you should find no small cause of dislike in many of their actions. For an instance, the fellow of this house, her hath not stacke this day to vndoe himselfe onely to become famous by receiuing of your Maiestie: like Herostratus the Shoomaker, that bur-

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The Cedar trees induce more ſtormes,
than little ſhrubs, that ſpring on hie:
The Weauers liue more voyd of harmes,
Than Princes of great dignitie,
While loue and friendſhip doth agree, &c.

The Shepheard ſitting in the field,
doth tune his pipe with heartes delight:
When Princes watch with ſpeare and ſhield,
the poore man ſoundly ſleepes all night.
While loue and friendſhip doth agree, &c.

Yet this by proofe is daily tride,
for Gods good gifts wee are ingrate:
And no man through the World ſo wide,
liues well contented with his ſtate.
No loue and friendſhip wee can ſee,
To hold the bands of amitie.

Well ſung good fellowes, ſaid our King: Light hearts & merrie minds liue long without gray haires. But (quoth Will Sommers) ſelldome without rags. Well, ſaid the King, there is a piece of angels to make good cheer withal: & looke that euery poore once you make feaſt among your ſelues, and frankly (euery peare) I giue you leaue to fetch foure Harbes out of Dunnington parke, without any mans let or controulement. O I beſeech your Grace (quoth Will Sommers) let it be with a condition. What is that, ſaid our King? My Liege, quoth he, that although the keeper will haue the skins, that they may giue their wiues the hornes. Get to, ſaid the Queene, thy head is fuller of knauerie, then thy purſe is of crownes.

The poore workemen humbly thanked his Maieſtie for his bountifull liberalitie: and euer ſince it hath beene a cuſtome among the Weauers, euery peare priuently after Bartholomewtide, in remembrance of the Kings fauor to meete together, and make a merrie feaſt. His Maieſtie came next among

among the ſpinners, and carders, who were merrily a working: whereat Will Sommers fell into a great laughter. What aples the foole to laugh, ſayd the King? Marrie (quoth Will Sommers) to ſee theſe maidens get their living, as bulls doe eate their meate. How is that, ſaid the Queen? By going full backward quoth Will Sommers: and I will lay a wager, that they that practiſe ſo well being maides to goe backward, will quickly learne ere long to fall backward.

But ſirra ſaid the Cardinall, then muſt fall forward when thou brakeſt thy face in maiſter Kingſmiles cellar. But you my Lord ſaid forward (quoth Will Sommers) when you ſate in the ſtockes at ſir Amias Paulets. Whereat there was greater laughing than before. The King and Queene and Nobilitie heedfully beheld theſe Women, who for the moſt part were very faire and comly creatures, and were all attired alike from top to toe. Then (after due reuerence) the maidens in quiet manner chaunted out this ſong, two of them ſinging the Dittie, and all the reſt bearing the burden.

The Maidens Song.

IT was a Knight in *Scotland* borne,
follow my loue, leape ouer the ſtrand:
Was taken priſoner and left forlorne,
euen by the good Earle of *Northumberland.*

Then was he caſt in priſon ſtrong,
follow my loue, leape ouer the ſtrand:
Where he could not walke nor lie along,
euen by the good Earle of *Northumberland.*

And as in ſorrow thus he lay,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand,
The Earles ſweete Daughter walkt that way,
and ſhe the faire flower of *Northumberland.*

And paſſing by like an Angell bright,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:

The Cedar trees induce more ſtormes,
than little ſhrubs, that ſprout on hie:
The Weauers liue more voyd of harmes,
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Where he could not walke nor lie along,
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And as in ſorrow thus he lay,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand;
The Earles ſweete Daughter walkt that way,
and ſhe the faire flower of *Northumberland.*

And paſsing by like an Angell bright,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:

This Priſoner had of her a ſight,
and ſhe the faire flower of *Northumberland*.

And loude to her this Knight did crie,
follow thy loue, come out the ſtrand:
The faire teares ſtanding in his eye,
and ſhe the faire flower of *Northumberland*.

Faire Lady he ſayd, take pitty on me,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
And ſaue me in prilous dye,
and you the faire flower of *Northumberland*.

Faire Sir how ſhould I take pitie on thee,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
Thou being a foe to our Country,
and I the faire flower of *Northumberland*?

Faire Lady I am no foe he ſaid,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
Through thy ſweet loue into woe I fayd,
for thee the faire flower of *Northumberland*.

Why ſhouldſt thou come here for loue of me,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand;
Hauing wife and Children in thy Countrie,
and I the faire flower of *Northumberland*?

I ſweare by the Bleſſed Trinitie,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
I haue no wife nor children I,
nor dwelling at home in merry *Scotland*.

If curteouſly you will me take,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
I vow that I will marrie thee,
ſo ſoone as I come in faire *Scotland*.

Thus

Thou ſhalt be a Lady of Caſtles and Towres,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtreame
And ſit like a Queene in princely bowres,
when I am at home in faire *Scotland*.

Then parted hence this Lady gay,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtreame
And got her fathers ring away,
to helpe this ſad Knight into faire *Scotland*.

Likewiſe much gold ſhe got by ſlight,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtreame
And all to helpe this forlorne Knight
to wend from her father to faire *Scotland*.

Two gallant ſteedes both good and able,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtreame
She likewiſe tooke out of the ſtable,
to ride with this Knight into faire *Scotland*.

And to the Iaylor ſhe ſent this ring,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtreame
The Knight from priſon forth to bring,
to wend with her into faire *Scotland*.

This token ſet the priſoner free,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtreame
Who ſtraight went to this faire Lady,
to wend with her into faire *Scotland*.

A gallant ſteed he did beſtride,
follow my loue, come ouer the the ſtreame
And with the Lady away did ride,
and ſhe the faire flower of *Northumberland*.

They roade till they came to a water cleare,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtreame

Good

Good ſir how ſhould I follow you here,
and I the faire flower of *Northumberland*?

The water is rough and wonderfull deepe,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
And on my ſaddle I ſhall not keep,
and I the faire flower of *Northumberland*.

Feare not the foord faire Lady quoth he,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
For long I cannot ſtay for thee:
and thou the faire flower of *Northumberland*.

The Lady prickt her wanton ſteed,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
And ouer the Riuer ſwom with ſpeede,
and ſhe the faire flower of *Northumberland*.

From top to toe all wet was ſhee,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
This haue I done for loue of thee,
and I the faire flower of *Northumberland*.

Thus rode ſhee all one winters night,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
Till *Edenborow* they ſaw in ſight,
the chiefeſt towne in all *Scotland*.

Now chuſe (quoth he) thou wanton flower,
follow my loue, come ouer the the ſtrand:
Where thou wilt be my paramour,
or get thee home to *Northumberland*.

For I haue wife and children fiue,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
In *Edenborow* they be aliue,
then get thee home to faire *England*.

This fauour ſhalt thou haue to boote,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
Ile haue thy horſe, goe thou on foote,
goe get thee home to *Northumberland.*

O falſe and faithleſſe Knight quoth ſhee,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand;
And canſt thou deale ſo bad with me,
and I the faire flowre of *Northumberland.*

Diſhonour not a Ladies name,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
But draw thy ſword and end my ſhame,
and I the faire flower of *Northumberland.*

He tooke her from her ſtately ſteed,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
And left her there in extreame need,
and ſhe the faire flower of *Northumberland.*

Then ſate ſhe downe full heauily,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
At length two Knights came riding by,
two gallant Knights of faire *England.*

Shee fell downe humbly on her knee,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
Saying curteous Knights take pitty on mee,
and I the faire flower of *Northumberland.*

I haue offended my father deere,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:
And by a falſe Knight that brought me heere,
from the good Earle of *Northumberland.*

They tooke her vp behind them then,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand:

And brought her to her Fathers agen,
and he the good Earle of *Northumberland*.

All you faire Maidens be warned by me,
follow my loue, come ouer the ſtrand,
Scots were neuer true, nor neuer will be,
To Lord, to Lady, *from faire England*.

FINIS.

After the Kings Maieſtie and the Queene had heard this ſong ſweetely ſung by them, hee caſt them a great reward: and ſo departing thence, went to the Fulling mills, at Dunbonie, where a great many alſo were hard at worke: and his Maieſtie perceiuing what a great number of people were by this one man ſet on worke, both admired, and commended him, ſaying further, that no Trade in all the Land was ſo much to bee cherished and maintained as this, which quoth he may well be called the life of the poor. And as the King returned from this place with intent to take horſe and depart, there met him a great many of children in garments of white ſilke fringed with gold, their heads crowned with golden Baies, and about their armes each one had a ſcarfe of green ſarcenet faſtned, in their hands they bare ſiluer Bowes, and vnder their girdles golden arrowes.

The formoſt of them repreſented Diana, goddeſſe of Chaſtitie, who was attended vpon by a traine of beautifull Nymphes, and they preſented to the King foure priſoners: The firſt was a ſterne and grimly Woman, carrying a frowning countenance: and her forehead full of wrinkles, her haire as blacke as pitch; and her garments all blaunde, a greate ſworde then had in her hand all ſtayned with purple goare: they called her name Bellona, Goddeſſe of warres, who had three daughters: the firſt of them was a tall Woman, ſo leane and ill fauoured, that her cheek bones were ready to ſtart out of the skinne, of a pale and deadly colour, her eyes ſunke into her head: her legges ſo feeble, that they could ſcantly

ſcantly carrie the body, all along her armes & hands through the skin you might tell the ſinewes, ioynts, and bones: her teeth were very ſtrong and ſharpe withall: ſhee was ſo greedy that ſhe was readie with her teeth to teare the skin from her owne armes: her attyre was black, and all torne and ragged, ſhee went bare footed and her name was Famine. The ſecond was a ſtrong ſtuffie Woman, with a looke pittieleſſe and unmercifull countenance: her garments were all made of Iron & ſteele, and ſhe carried in her hand a naked weapon and ſhee was called the Sword. The third was alſo a cruell creature, her eyes did ſparkle like burning coales: her hayre was like a flame: and her garments like burning braſſe: ſhee was ſo hot that none could ſtand neere her, and they called her name Fyre.

After this they retyred againe, and brought into his Highneſſe two other Perſonages, their countenaunce was princely and amiable, their attyre moſt rich and ſumptuous: The one carried in his hand a golden trumpet, and the other a Palmetree, and theſe were called Fame and Victory, whom the goddeſſe of Chaſtitie charged to waite upon this famous Prince for ever. This done, each child after other with due reuerence gaue unto his Highneſſe a ſweete ſmelling Gilliflower, after the manner of the Perſians, offering ſomething in token of loyalty and obedience. The King and Queene behoulding the ſweet ſauour and countenance of theſe children, demaunded of Iacke of Newbery whoſe children they were? Who anſwered: It ſhall pleaſe your Highneſſe to vnderſtand, that theſe are the children of poore people: that do get their liuing by picking of woll, hauing ſcant a good meale once in a weeke. With that the King began to tell his Gilliflowers, whereby hee found that there was 96. children. Certainely ſaid the Queene I perceiue God giues as well to the poore as to the rich, and later many times: and though their ayre and keeping bee but ſimple, the bleſſing of God doth cheriſh them. Therefore ſaid ſhe Queene I will requeſt to haue two of them to waite in my Chamber. Faire Katherine ſaid the King, then will I haue

ſtrupt in one opinion, thinking theſe children fitter for the Court than the Country: whereupon in the begin of a braue maze: found to ſeuered to be Pages to his royall preſence, and the reſt bee ſent to Vniuerſities, allowing to euery one a Gentlewans hetrg. Diuers of the Noble men did in like ſort entertaine ſome of thoſe children into their ſeruices, ſo that (in the end) not one was left to picke meat, but were all ſo prouided for, that their Parents neuer needed to care for them: and God ſo bleſſed them, that each of them came to be men of great account and authority in the land, whoſe poſteritie remaine to this day worſhipfull and famous. The King, Queene, and Nobles being ready to depart, after great thankes and gifts giuen to Iack of Newbery, his Maieſtie would haue made him Knight, but hee meekely refuſed it, ſaying: I beſeech your Grace let me liue a poore Clothier among my people, in whoſe maintenance I take more felicity, than in all the haute titles of Gentilitie: for theſe are the labouring Ants whom I ſeeke to defend, and theſe bee the Bees which I keepe: whoſe labour in this life, not for our ſelues, but for the glory of God, and to be ſeruice to our dread Soueraigne. Thy knighthood need be no hinderance of thy faculty, quoth the King. O my dred Soueraigne ſaid Iacke, honour and worſhip may be compared to the Lake of Lethe, which makes men forget themſelues that taſte thereof: and to the end I may ſtill keepe in minde from when I came, and what I am, I beſeech your Grace let mee reſt in my ruſſet coat a poore Clothier to my dying day. Seeing then (ſaid the King) that a mans minde is a Kingdome to himſelfe, I will leaue thee to the riches of thy owne content, and ſo farewell. The Queenes Maieſty taking her leaue of the good wife with a Princely kiſſe gaue her in token of remembrance a moſt precious and rich Diamond ſet in gold, about the which was alſo curiouſly ſet fiue Rubies, and fiue Emeralds in one peece, valued at nine hundred Markes: and ſo her Grace departed. But in this meane ſpace Will Sommers kept company among the maids, and betooke himſelfe to ſpinning as they did, which among them

was

pence apeece a fuſtit of a gallon of wine: but William by his meanes would pay it not except they would take it out in kiſſes, euery kiſſe at a farthing. This paiment we refuſe for three cauſes q with the Maidens: the one, for that we eſteeme our kiſſes at ſo baſe a rate: and the other, becauſe in ſo doing we ſhould giue as much as poſſe.

Chap. IIII.

How the maidens ſerued *Will Sommers* for his ſawſineſſe.

The maidens conſented together, ſeeing Will Sommers was ſo buſie both with their wiues, and in his wiues, and would not pay his finiture, to ſerue him as he ſerued: firſt therefore they bound him hand and feete, and ſet him vpright againſt a poſte; tying him ſtarke, which he tooke in ſport, notwithſtanding he could not reſiſt them: and becauſe hee let his tongue runne at randome, they ſet a ſaire gagge in his mouth, ſuch a one as he could not for his life put away: ſo that he ſtood as one gaping for winde. Then one of them got a couple of dogs droppings, and putting them in a bagge, laide them to ſoke in a baſon of water, while the reſt turned vp the collar of his Ierkin, and put an hoſe cloth about his necke in ſtead of a fine towell: then came the other maide with a baſon and water in the ſame, and with the perfume in the pudding-bagge, ſlapt him about the face and lips, till he looked like a Tawny Moore, q with her hand waſht him very orderly: the ſmell being ſomwhat ſtrong, Will could by no meanes abide it, and for want of other language, cryed Ah ha ha ha. Faine hee would haue ſpet, but could not, ſo that he was faine to ſwallow downe ſuch liquor as hee never taſted the like. When hee had a pretty while been waſhed in this ſort, at the length he crouch't downe vpon his knees, yeelding himſelfe to their ſeruice: which the maidens perceiuing, pulled the gag out of his mouth. He had no ſooner the liberty of his tongue, but that he curſt and ſware like a diuell: the maides that could ſcant ſtand for laughing, at

laſt aſkt hath ſtrolled his nothing? Nil nihil, quoth hee? I was neuer thus waſht, nay euer mett with ſuch Barbarous Maides: I was beſeecht euer gee quoth hee, and I will giue you whatſoeuer you will demand: wherewith hee caſt them an Engliſh Crowne. Fy quoth one of the maides, you are yet but waſht, but wee will ſhame you ere you goe. Faire Maides quoth hee pardon my ſhowing, let it ſuffice that you haue waſht mee: if I haue done a treſpaſſe to your trade, forgiue it mee, and I will neuer hereafter offend you. Tuſh ſaid the Maides you haue made our wheeles caſt their bands and bruſh the teeth of our cards in ſuch ſort, as the offence may not be remitted without great penuance. Maſter quoth hee gold was regarde it not: therefore as you are perfumed fit for the Dogges, ſo we enioine you this night to ſerue all our Dogs, which penuance if you will ſpeede with all ſpeede to performe, wee will let you looſe. O quoth Will, the Dogs Elephant was neuer more fearefull of the filly ſheepe, than I am of your diſpleaſures: therefore let mee looſe and I will vſe it with all diligence. Then they vnbound him, and brought him among a great companie of Dogs, which when Will had well beheld euer, hee ſpoke out of the portall thy ſeruice why before me quoth the maides, what meane you by this? Mary quoth Will, theſe be all Ladies, and my penuance is but to ſerue the Dogs. It is true quoth they: haue you vndertaken vs in this ſort? Well looke there bee not one Dog vnſerued leſt he would ſtraſle you. Will Sommers ſtript vp his ſleeues verye orderly, and clapt an apron about his motley breech, and taking a paile ſerued the Dogs houſomely. When he had ſerued them all meate, he ſayd thus:

My taske is duly done,
My liberty is won:
The Dogs haue eate their crabs,
Therefore farewell yee drabs.

Nay ſoft friend quoth they, the verieſt Dog of all hath yet had nothing. Where the diuell is he ſaid Will that I ſee honeſt? Wrapt in a motley Iarkin quoth they, take thy skin by the nose, and then ſhalt catch him by the tayle. Will neuer ſa-

ueris

barth a hog quoth he, I would alway ſpare from my own belly to giue to a Woman. If thou be not (ſay they) eate (like the prodigall Childe) with thy ſellow hogs, we will ſo ſhame thee, as thou ſhalt bee rely repent thy diſobedience. He ſeeing no remedie, committed himſelfe to their mercie: and ſo they let him goe. When hee came to the Court, hee ſhewed to the King all his aduenture among the Weauers maidens, whereat the King and Queene laughed heartily.

Chap. V.

Of the pictures which *Iacke* of *Newbery* had in his houſe, whereby hee encouraged his ſeruants to ſeeke for fame and dignitie.

IN a faire large Parlour which was wainſcotted about, Iacke of Newbery had 15. faire Pictures hanging, which were couered with curtaines of green ſilke, fringed with gold, which hee would often ſhew to his friends and ſeruants. In the firſt was the picture of a Shepheard beſide whom kneeled a great King named Viriat, who ſometime gouerned the people of Portugal. See heere quoth Iacke, the father a Shepheard, the ſonne a Soueraigne. This man ruled in Portugall, and made great warres againſt the Romanes, and after that inuaded Spaine, yet in the end was traiterouſly ſlaine.

The next was the portraiture of Agathocles, which for his ſurpaſſing wiſedome and manhood, was created King of Sicilia, and maintained battaile againſt the people of Carthage. His Father was a poore Potter, beſide whom he alſo kneeled. And it was the vſe of this King, that whenſoeuer he made a banquet, he would haue all veſſels of earth as of golde ſet vpon the Table, to the intent hee might alwaies beare in mind the place of his beginning, his Fathers houſe and ſeruile.

The 3. was the picture of Iphicrates an Athenian borne, who banquiſhed the Lacedemonians in plaine and open battaile. This man was Captaine generall to Artaxerxes, King

King of Perſia, whoſe father was notwithſtanding a Cobler, and there like is pictured. Eumenes was alſo a famous Captaine to Alexander the great, whoſe father was another thing Carter.

The fourth was the ſimilitude of Aelius Pertinax, ſometime Emperor of Rome, yet was his father but a Villaine: and afterwards to give example to others of lowe condition, to beare minds of worthy mate, he cauſed the ſhop table beautified with marble curiouſly cut, wherein his father before him was wont to get his living.

The fift was the picture of Diocleſian, that ſo much adorned Rome with his magnificall and triumphant victories.

This was a moſt famous Emperour, although no other than the ſonne of a Book-binder. Valentinian ſtood the next, painted moſt artificially: who alſo was crowned Emperor, and was but the ſonne of a poore Rope-maker, as in the ſame picture was expreſſed, where his father was painted by him uſing his trade.

The ſeventh was the Emperor Probus, whoſe father being a Gardener, was pictured by him handling a ſpade.

The eight picture was of Marcus Aurelius, whom every age honoureth; he was ſo wiſe and prudent an Emperour: yet was he but a cloth-weavers ſonne.

The ninth was the portraiture of the valiant Emperour Maximinus, the ſon of a Black-ſmith, who was there painted as he was wont to worke at the Anuil.

In the tenth table was painted the Emperour Gabienus, who at the firſt was but a poore ſhepheard.

Next to this picture was placed the pictures of two Popes of Rome, whoſe wiſedome and learning advanced them to that dignitie. The firſt was the lively counterfeit of Pope Iohn the twenty two, whoſe father was a Shoomaker: he being elected Pope, increaſed their rents and patrimonie greatly.

The other was the picture of Pope Sextus the fourth of that name, being a poore Mariners ſonne.

The thirteenth picture was of Lamuſius, King of Lombardie,

bardie, who was no better then the son of a common trumpet, being painted like a naked childe swimming in water, and hauing holes of the paint of a Launce, by the which hee hung fast, and saued himselfe. The reason inherent is this. After his lawfull mother was deliuered of him, shee vnnaturally threw him into a deepe stinking ditch, wherein was some water. By hap, King Agilmond passed that way, and found this childe almost stifled, who moouing him somewhat with the point of his Launce, the better to perceiue what hee was, the child (though newly borne) took hold thereof with one of his pretty hands, not suffering it to slide as his minde serued: which thing the prince considering, hauing a-mongst all the strange sorts of this young little infant, caused it to bee taken vp, and carefully to be fostered, and because the place where hee found it, was called Lama, he named the child Lamulius: who after grew to be so braue a man, and so much honoured of Fortune, that in the end hee became sole King of the Lombards, who liued there in honour, and in his succession after him, euen vnto the time of the vnfortunate King Albouine, when all came to ruine, subuersion and destruction.

In the fourteenth picture, Primislas King of Bohemia, was most artificially painted, before whom there stood an horse without bridle or saddle, in a field where husbandmen were at plough. The cause why this King was thus painted (quoth Iacke) was this. At that time the King of the Bohemians died without issue, and great strife being among the Nobility in a new King, at length they all consented that a horse should be let into the field, without bridle or saddle, hauing all determined with a most assured purpose to make him their King, before whom this horse rested: At that time it came to passe, that the horse first stayed himselfe before this Primislas, being a simple creature, who was then busie driuing the plough: they presently made him their Soueraigne, who ordered himselfe and his Kingdome very wisely. Hee obtained many good Lawes, he compassed the Citty of Prague with strong walles, besides many other

things, meriting perpetuall laud and commendations.

The fifteenth was the picture of Theophraſtus, a Philoſopher, a counſellor of Kings, and companion of Princes, who was but ſonne of a Tapiar. Seeing then my good ſeruants, that theſe men haue been aduanced to high eſtate and Princely dignities by wiſedome, learning, and diligence, I would wiſh you to imitate the like vertues, that you might attaine the like honors: for which if you both know what good fortune God hath in ſtore for you: there is none of you ſo poorly borne, but that men of baſer birth haue come to great honors: the idle haue ſhall euer go in a ragged garment, and the ſlothfull line in reproach: but ſuch as be leade a vertuous life, and gouerne themſelues diſcreetely, ſhall of the beſt haue eſteemed, and ſpend his dayes in credit.

CHAP. VI.

How all the Clothiers in England ioyned together, and with one conſent complayned to the King of their great hinderance ſuſtayned for want of traffique into other Countries, whereupon they could get no ſale for their Cloath.

BY meanes of the warres our King had with diuerſe Countries, many Merchant ſtrangers were prohibited by coming to England, and alſo our owne Merchants (in like ſort) were forbidden to haue dealing with France, or the Low-countries: by meanes whereof, the Clothiers had moſt of their cloth lying on their hands, and that which they ſold was at ſo low a rate, that money ſcarcely paide for the woll, and workemanſhip. Whereupon they thought to eaſe themſelues by abating the poore workemens wages, and when that did not preuaile they turned away their people; Weauers, Shearemen, Spinners, Carders: ſo that where there was a hundred loomes kept in one towne, there was ſcant 50. and hee that kept twenty, put downe ten. Many a poore man (for want of worke) was herby vndone with his wife and children, and it made many a poore widow to ſit with an hungry

hungry belly: This bred great woe in moſt places in England. In the end Iack of Newbery intended (in the behalfe of the poore) to make a ſupplication to the King: and to the end he might do it the more effectually, he ſent Letters to all the chiefe clothing townes in England to this effect.

The Letter.

Welbeloued friends and brethren, hauing a taſte of the generall griefe, and feeling (in ſome meaſure) the extremitie of theſe times. I fell into conſideration by what meanes we might beſt expell theſe ſorrowes, and recouer our former commodity. When I had well thought thereon, I found that nothing was more needfull herein then a faithfull vnity among our ſelues. This ſore of neceſſity can no way be cured but by concord: for like as the ſteme conſumes the candle, ſo men through diſcorde conſume themſelues. The poore hate the rich, becauſe they will not ſet them on worke: and the rich hate the poore, becauſe they ſeeme burdenous: both are offended for want of gaine. When Belinus and Brennus were at ſtrife, the Queene their mother in their greateſt furie perſwaded them to peace, by laying her conception of them in one wombe, and mutuall cherriſhing of them from their tender yeeres: ſo let our Art of Clothing, which like a kinde mother hath cherriſhed vs with the excellency of her ſecrets, perſwade vs to an vnity. Though our occupation be decayed, let vs not deale with it as men doe by their old ſhoes, which after they haue long worne them out of the mire, doe in the end fling them on the dunghill: or as the huſbandman doth by his Bees, who for their honey burnes them. Deare friends, conſider that our Trade will maintaine vs, if we will vphold it, and there is nothing baſe, but that which is baſely vſed. Aſſemble therefore your ſelues together, and in euery Towne tell the number of thoſe that haue their liuing by meanes of this Trademens it in a Bill, and ſend it to me: and becauſe ſuits in Court are like winter nights long and tedious, let there be in euery place a weekely collection made to defray charges: for I tell

yeas: Noble mens Secretaries are cunning Lawyers have ſubtle tongues and deceitful: which muſt eaſily be granted with the ſweete opie of Angels Therefore two honeſt diſcreete men out of every Towne to meet me at Blackwell hall in London, on All Saints Eue, and then we will preſent our humble petition to the King: Thus I bid you heartily farewell.

Copies of this Letter being ſealed, they were ſent to all the clothing Townes of England, and Weauers both of Linnen and Woollen gladly receiued them: ſo that when all the Bills were brought together, there were found of the Clothiers, and theſe they maintained, threeſcore thouſand & ſix hundred perſons. Moreouer euery clothing Towne, ſending vp two men to London, they were found to be an hundred and twelue perſons, who in very humble ſort fell downe before his Maieſty, walking in S. Iames his Parke, and deliuered vnto him their petition. The King gentlie perufing it, asked if they were all Clothiers? who anſwered (as it were one man) in this ſort: Mercie (moſt gracious King) all poore Clothiers, and your Maieſties faithfull ſubiects. Why Lords, (quoth the King) let theſe mens complaint bee throughly looked into, and their griefe redreſſed: for I account them in the number of the beſt Common wealths men. As the Clergie for the Soule, the Souldier for defence of his Countrie, the Lawyer to execute iuſtice, the husbandman to ſeede the belly: ſo is the skilfull Clothier no leſſe neceſſary for the clothing of the backe, whom wee may reckon among the chiefe Peeres of our Land: and as the Cryſtall light of the eye is tenderly to bee kept from harmes, becauſe it giues to the whole body light, ſo is the clothiers, whoſe cunning hand prouides garments to defend our naked parts from the winters nipping froſt. Many more reaſons there are which may moue vs to redreſſe their griefes, but let it ſuffice that I command to haue it done. With that his grace deliuered the petition to the Lord Chauncellor, and all the Clothiers cried, God ſaue the King. But as the King was ready to depart, he ſuddenly turned about, ſaying I remem-

ber

ber there is one Iack of Newbery, I muſt bee bad not his hand in this buſineſſe, who preſſes himſelfe to bee a defender of true labourers. Then ſaid the Duke of Somerſet: It may bee his purſe is anſwerable for his perſon. Nay (quoth the Lord Cardinall) all his treaſure is little enough to maintaine warre againſt the Butterflies. With that Iack ſtriued himſelfe vnto the king, and priuately told his Grace of their griefe anew. To whom his Maiſty ſaid: Giue thy attendance at the Counſell-Chamber, where thou ſhalt receiue an anſwere to thy content. And ſo his highnes departed. Finally, it was agreed that the Marchants ſhould freely traffique one with another: and that proclamation thereof ſhould bee made as well on the other ſide of the ſea, as in our Land, but it was long before this was effected, by reaſon the Cardinall being Lord Chancellor, put off the matter from time to time. And becauſe the Clothiers thought it beſt not to depart before it was ended, they gaue their daily attendance at the Cardinals houſe: but ſpent many dayes to no purpoſe. Sometimes they were anſwered, my Lord was buſie: and could not bee ſpoke withall, or elſe he was aſleepe, and they durſt not diſturbe him: or at his Maſſe, and they ſhould not diſturbe him: or at his prayers, and they durſt not diſpleaſe him: and ſtill one thing or other ſtood in the way to hinder them. At laſt, Patch the Cardinals foole, hearing (by their often repaire thither) well acquainted with the Clothiers, came vnto them and ſaide: what, haue you not ſpoken with my Lord yet? No truly (quoth they) we heare ſay he is buſie and wee ſtay till his Grace bee at leiſure. It is true, ſaide Patch: and with that in all haſt hee went out of the hall, and at laſt came in againe with a great bundle of ſtraw on his back. Why how now Patch (quoth the Gentlemen) what will thou doe with that ſtraw? Mary (quoth hee) I will put it vnder theſe honeſt mens feete, leaſt they ſhould freeze vs when they finde my Lord at leiſure. This made them all to laugh, and cauſed Patch to carry away his ſtraw againe. Well, well (quoth hee) it'l coſt you a groats worth of faggots at night, blame not mee. Truſt me (ſaid Iack of Newbery) if my Lord

Cardinals ſeruant had neuer no better in killing of Calues then he is in vſurping of peace meus ſtyle, I doubt he had neuer worne a Mytar. Thus he ſpake betwixt themſelues ſoftly: but yet not ſo ſoftly but that hee was ouerheard by a flattering fellow that ſtood by, whereof it becomes to ſome of the Gentlemen, who they ſtraight certified the Cardinall thereof.

The Cardinall (who was of a very high ſpirit, and a lofty ſtyling ſtate) was maruailously diſpleaſed at lack of Newbery: wherefore in his rage hee commaunded and ſent the Clothiers all to priſon, becauſe the one of them ſhould ſuffer for the others reliefement. Foure dayes lay theſe men in the Counter priſon, till at laſt they made their humble petition to the King for their releaſe: but ſome of the Cardinals friends kept it from the Kings ſight. Notwithſtanding the Duke of Commerſet hearing thereof, ſpake with the Lord Cardinall about the matter, willing him ſhould ſpeedily releaſe them, leaſt it ſhould him ſome diſpleaſure: for you may perceiue (quoth the Duke) how highly the King eſteemed men of that faculty. Sir (quoth the Cardinall) I doubt not but to anſwere their impriſonment well enough, being perſwaded that none would haue giuen mee ſuch a quip but an heretique: and I dare warrant you, were this lack of Newbery well examined, hee would be found to bee infected with Luthers ſpirit, againſt whom our King hath of late written a moſt learned booke: in reſpect whereof the Popes holineſſe hath entituled his Maieſty, Defender of the Faith: therefore I tell you ſuch fellowes are fitter to bee faggots for fire, then Fathers of families: notwithſtanding (at your Graces requeſt) I will releaſe them. Accordingly the Cardinall ſent for the Clothiers before him to White-hall, his new built houſe by Weſtminſter, and there beſtowing his bleſſing vpon them, ſaid: Though you haue offended mee I pardon you: for as Steuen forgaue his enemies that ſtoned him, and our Sauiour thoſe ſinfull men that crucified him, ſo doe I forgiue you that high treſpaſſe committed in diſgrace of my birth: for herein do men come neereſt vnto God, in ſhewing

mercy

pens prices a firkin of a gallon of wine: but William by no meanes would pay it, except they would take it out in kisses, euery kisse at a farthing. This payment we refuse for three causes; with the Maidens: the one, for that we esteem not kisses at so base a rate: and the other, because in so doing we should giue as much as pen.

Chap. IIII.

How the maidens serued *Will Sommers* for his sawsinesse.

THe maidens consulted together, seeing Will Sommers was so busie both with their worke, and in his words, and would not pay his forfeiture, to serue him as he serued: first therefore they bound him hand and feete, and set him vpright against a poste; tying him thereto, which he tooke in iuport, notwithstanding he could not resist them: and because hee let his tongue runne at randome, they set a faire gagge in his mouth, such a one as he could not for his life put away: so that he stood as one gaping for winde. Then one of them got a couple of dogs droppings, an putting them in a bagge, laide them to soake in a bason of water, while the rest turned vp vnto the collar of his Ierkin, and put an hoste cloath about his necke in stead of a fine towell: then came the other maide with a bason and water in the same, an with the perfume in the pudding-bagge, clapt him about the face and lips, till he looked like a tawnie Moore, & with her hand washt him very orderly: the smell being somwhat strong, Will could by no meanes abide it, and for want of other language, cryed Ah ha ha ha. Faine hee would haue spet, an could not, so that he was faine to swallow down such liquor as hee neuer tasted the like. When hee had a pretty while been washed in this sort, at the length he crouch't downe vpon his knees, yeelding himselfe to their fauor: which the maidens perceiuing, pulled the gag out of his mouth. He had no sooner the liberty of his tongue, but that he curst and swore like a diuelish maiden that could scant stand for laughing, at

but bad engliſh. Ione on the other ſide that well perceiued his paſſions, ſtood as it were triumph ouer him, as one that were ſenſleſſe to her beauty: and although ſhee knew well enough before that ſhee was fayre, yet did ſhe neuer ſo highly eſteeme of herſelfe as at this preſent: ſo that when ſhe heard him eyther ſigh, ſob, or groane, ſhee would turne her face in a carelleſſe ſort, as if ſhee had beene borne (like the women of Taprobane) without eares. When maſter Benedick ſaw ſhee made no reckoning of his fayrenes, at length he blabbered out his broken Engliſh, and ſpoke to her in this ſort: Mettreſſa Ione, be mee tra and fa, mee loue you wod all mine heart, and if you no ſhall loue mee againe, mee know me ſhall die, ſweete Mettreſſa loue a mee; and by my fa and tra you ſhall lack nothing: Firſt me will giue you de ſilke for make you a Frog. Second de fin Camree for make you ruffes, and de turd ſhall be for make fin hankercher, for wipe your noſe. But miſtaking his ſpeech began to be choleriek, bidding him to keepe that bodkin to pick his teeth. Ho, ho Mettreſſa Ione (quoth he) be Got, you are angry. Oh Mettreſſa Ione be not chafe with your friens for noting. Good ſir (quoth ſhee) keepe your friendſhip for them that care for it and ſpare your loue on thoſe that can like perans for mee I tell you plaine, I am not minded to marry. Otia no matter for marrie, if you will come to my chamber, beſhit my bed, and let me kiſſe you. The made though ſhe were very much diſpleaſed, yet at theſe words ſhee could not forbeare laughing in her ſleeue. Ahah, Mettreſſa Ione, mee is very glad to ſee you merry, hould Mettreſſa Ione, holde your hand I ſay, and there is foure crowne becauſe you laugh on mee. I pray you ſir, keepe your crowns, for I neede them not. Yes be Got you ſhall haue them Mettreſſa Ione, to keepe in box for you. But ſhe that could not well underſtand his broken language, miſtooke his meaning in many things, & therfore wild him not to trouble her any more. Notwithſtanding ſuch was his loue towards her, that he could not forbeare her company, but made many iourneies thither for her ſake: and as a certain ſpring in Arcadia, makes men to ſtarue that drinke of it: ſo

and

his poore Benedicke fixing his fancie on her beautie: for when he was in London, he did nothing but ſigh, wiſhing he had wings like the meniters of Tartaria that he might flie to and fro at his pleaſure. When any of his friends did tell her of his ardent affection toward her, ſhe wiſht them to rub him with the ſweate of a mule, to aſſwage his amorous paſſion, or to fetch him ſome of the water in Boetia, to coole & extinguiſh the heate of his infliction: for quoth ſhe, let him neuer hope to be helpt by me. Well quoth they, before he ſaw thy glaring face, hee was a man reaſonable and wiſe, but to now a dark fool, being by thy beautie bereft of wit, as if he had drunke of the riuer Cea, & like bewitching Circe thou haſt certainly transformed him from a man to an Aſſe. There are ſprings in Ponte quoth they, that the deeper they bee layd in the water, the fiercer they burne: vnto the which, fond Louers may fitly be compared, who the more they are denyed, the hotter is their deſire: but ſeeing it is ſo, that he can finde no fauor at your hands, we will ſhew him what you haue ſaid, and either draw him from his dumps, or leaue him to his owne will. Then ſpake one of the Weauers that dwelt in the Towne, and was a kinſman to this maid. I muſe (quoth hee) that maiſter Benedicke will not be perſwaded, but like the Beech, will play with the flame that will ſcorch his wings. Yee thinke he ſhould forbeare to loue, or learne to ſpeake, or elſe woo ſuch as can anſwer him in his language, for I tell you that Ione my kinſwoman is no taſte for an Italian. Theſe ſpeeches were told to Benedicke with no ſmall addition. When our young marchant heard the matter ſo plain, he vowed to be reuenged of the Weauer, and to ſee if he could finde any more friendſhip of his wife: therefore diſſembling his ſorrow, and couering his griefe, with ſpeed he tooke his iourney to Newbery, and pleaſantly ſaluted miſtris Ione, and hauing his purſe full of crownes, hee was very liberall to the wenches, eſpecially to Ione his kinſman, in ſo much that hee got his fauour many times to goe ſach with him, promiſing him very largely to buy great matters, and ſo lent him a hundreth pounds, wiſhing him to be aſſeruant no

longer, beſide he liberally beſtowed on his wife many gifts, and if ſhe wold him but a band, her would giue her an angell if hee did but ſend her his ſo a quart of Wine, her would giue him a ſhilling ſo his paines. The which his curteſie changed the weauers mind: ſaying hee was a very honeſt Gentleman, and worthie to haue one far better then his kinſwoman.

This pleaſed Maſter Bennedick well to heare them ſay ſo, notwithſtanding her made light of the matter, and many times when the weauer was at his maſters at worke, the Marchant would bee at home with his wife, ſounding and wading words. At length time bringing acquaintance, and often conference breeding familiaritie, maiſter Bennedicke began ſomewhat boldly to talke with Gillian, ſaying that her ſight, and ſweet countenance had quite rauiſhed his loue from home, and that ſhee only was the miſtreſs of his heart: and if ſhee would find him her loue, hee would giue her gold from Arabia, orient pearle from India, and make her bracelets of pretious diamonds. Thy garments ſhall bee of the fineſt ſilke that is made in Venice, and thy purſe ſhall ſtill be full with angels. Well then (ſweet miſtreſs) and kill me not with diſdaines, as did thy vnkinde kinſwoman, whoſe diſdain had almoſt taſt mee my life. O maiſter Bennedicke, thinke not the wiues of England can be woone by rewards, or inticed with faire words, as children are with plums, it may bee that you being merily diſpoſed, diſpoſe this to try my conſtancie. Know then that I eſteeme more the honour of my good name, then the ſliding wealth of the world. Maiſter Bennedicke hearing her ſay ſo, admired her, that conſidering it was loue which lighted his tongue to bewray his harts affection, that yet ſhee would bee ſecret, and ſo for that time tooke his leaue. When hee was gone, the woman began to call her wits together, and to conſider of her preſent eſtate, and withall the better to note the comelines of her perſon, & the ſweet fauour of her face: which when ſhe had well thought vpon, ſhee began to harbour new thoughts, and to entertaine contrarie affections, ſaying: ſhall I contemne my

ſelfe

ſelfe to be inuyt in ſheepes ruſſet that may ſwim in ſilke, and ſit all day carding for a great, that may haue crowns at my commaund? Ah quoth ſhee, I will no more beare ſo, baſe a mynde, but take ſuttones fauours while they are to bee had. The ſweet Roſe doth liuiſh but one moneth, nay Womens beauties but in young yeers: as the winters froſt conſumes the ſommer flowers, ſo doth old age beauty pleaſant delight. O glorious gold quoth ſhee, how ſweete is thy ſmell? how pleaſing is thy ſight? Thou ſubduſt Princes, and ouerthrowſt kingdomes, then how ſhould a ſilly woman withſtand thy ſtrength? thus ſhee reſted meditating on preferment, minding to beare her beneſtie to maintaine her ſelfe in brauerie, euen as occupions inuent their conſciences to gather riches. Within a day or two, maiſter Bennedick came to her againe, on whom ſhe caſt a ſmiling countenance: hee perceiuing that, (according to his old cuſtome) ſent for Wine, and very merrie they were. At laſt in the midſt of their carouſes caſt out his former queſtion: and after farther conference ſhe yeelded, and appointed a time when he ſhould come to her: at which ſeaſon ſhee gaue her ſelfe a ſeuen poſtigues: within an houre or two after, entring into her owne conſcience, bethinking how finely ſhee had ſould her ſelfe to ſelfe, began thus to expoſtulate. Good Lord quoth ſhee, ſhall I breake that holy bond which I made in marriage, and polute my bodie which the Lord hath ſanctified? Can I breake the commaundement of my God, & not reſt accurſed? ſo bee a traytor to my husband, and ſuffer no ſhame? I heard once my brother reade in a booke, that Bucephalus Alexanders Horſe, being a beaſt, would not bee backt by any but the Conqueror, and ſhall I conſent to any but my husband? Artemiſia being a heathen Lady, loued her husband ſo well, that ſhee dranke vp his aſhes, and buried him in her owne bowels: and ſhould I being a Chriſtian, caſt my husband out of my heart? The Romaines were wont to crowne their husbands heads with bayes, in token of victory, and ſhall I giue my husband hornes in token of infamy? An harlot is hated of all vertuous people, and ſhall I

make my ſelfe a thoſe? O my Gentleman me my ſin, quoth ſhee, and cleanſe my heart from this ſwitching imagination: and as ſhe was thus lamenting, her husband came home. The whole light her teares were doubled, like a River whoſe ſtreames is increaſed by ſhowers of raine. Her husband ſeeing this, would needs know the cauſe of her ſorrow: but a great while ſhe would not ſhew him, caſting many a pitious looke upon him, and ſhaking her head, at laſt ſhe ſaid: O my deare husband, I have offended againſt God and thee, and made ſuch a treſpaſſe by my tongue, as hath cut a deepe ſcarre in my conſcience, and wounded my heart with griefe like a ſword: like Penelope ſo have I been woo'd, but like Penelope I have not anſwered. Why woman quoth hee, what is the matter? If it be but the leaſt offence of my long lady ſhould ſhew ſo greene a countenance that women tongues are like Lambes tayles, which ſildome ſtand ſtill. And the wiſe man ſaith, where much wine is, muſt needes be ſome offence. Womens beauties are ſnares to intangle eyes to ſhoot at: but as every Archer hits not the white, ſo every looker wins not his wiſhts honour. All Cities that are beſieged, are not taken, nor all women to be miſliked that are loved. Why wife? I am perſwaded thy faith is more ſtrong, and thy conſtancie greater to withſtand Lovers alarums, than that any other but my ſelfe ſhould obtaine the fortreſſe of thy heart. O ſweet husband (quoth ſhee) weeke ſhe ſtrongeſt Tower at length falleth downe by the Canons force, though the bullets be but Iron: then how can the weake Bulwarke of a womans breaſt make reſiſtance, when the hot Canons of deepe perſwading words are ſhot off with golden bullets, and every one as big as a Portigues? If it bee ſo wife, I may think my ſelfe, ſhe gone, and pen to bee a very honeſt woman. As Mars and Venus entangled together in a net, ſo I doubt, you and ſome knave have played naked together in a bed: but in faith you queane, I will ſend thee to ſalute thy friends without a noſe, and as thou haſt ſold thy honeſtie, ſo will I ſell thy company. Sweete Husband, though I have ſwerved, I have perfumed nothing

thing: euery bargaine is not effected, and ſhrewdneſs lacks brought againſt the thirtie ſiluer plates, for the which he betrayed his Maiſter: ſo repenting my folly. Ile call him againe his gelt, for which I ſhould haue reuenged my huſband. Tell me quoth her husband what he is? It is maiſter Bennedicke quoth ſhee, which for my loue hath left the loue of our kinſwoman, and hath vowed himſelfe for euer to liue my ſeruant. O diſſembling Italian, quoth he, I will be reuenged on him for this wrong. I know that any fauour from Ione my kinſwoman, will make him runne like a man bitten with a mad dog: therefore be ruled by me, and thou ſhalt ſee me dreſſe him in his kinde: the woman was verie well pleaſed, ſaying he would be there that night. All this while will with mee, quoth her husband, and to ſupper will I inuite Ione my kinſwoman, and in the meane ſpace make vp the bed in the Parlour very decently. So the good man went forth, and got a ſleepy drench from the Potecaries, the which hee gaue to a young ſhow, which he had in his yard, and in that euening laid her downe in the bed in the Parlour, drawing the curtaines round about. Supper time being come, maiſter Bennedick gaue his attendance, looking for no other company but the good wife: Notwithſtanding at the laſt miſtreſſe Ione came in with her kinſman, and ſate downe to ſupper with them. Maiſter Bennedicke muſing at their ſudden approach, yet neuertheleſſe glad of miſtreſſe Ione's company, paſt the ſupper time with many pleaſant conceits, Ione ſhewing her ſelfe that night more pleaſant in his company than at any time before: therefore he gaue the good man great thankes. Good maiſter Bennedicke, little do you thinke how I haue trauelled in your behalfe to my kinſwoman, and much adoe I had to bring the peeuiſh Wench into any good liking of your loue: notwithſtanding by my great diligence and perſwaſions, I did at length win her good will to come hither, little thinking to finde you here, or any ſuch good cheare to entertaine her, all which I ſee is fallen out for your profit. But truſt mee all the world cannot alter her minde, nor turne her loue from you: In regard whereof ſhe

hath promiſed mee to lie this night in my bands, for the great beſtre ſhee hath of your good companie: and in requitall of all your great curteſies ſhewed to mee, I am verie well content to bring you to bed. Marrie this you muſt conſider, and ſo ſhe bad me tel you, that you ſhold come to bed with as little noiſe as you could, and trouble nothing that you finde, for feare of her beſt gowne and her hat, which ſhee will lay downe by the bed ſide, next her beſt partlet, and in ſo doing you may have company with her all night, but ſay nothing in any caſe till you bee a bed: O quoth hee, Maſter Ian, bee God Maſter Ian, mee will not ſpoyle her clothes for a towſand pound, ah mee love Metres Ione more then my wife. Well, ſupper being done, they roſe from the table. Maſter Bennedick imbracing miſtreſſe Ione, thanked her for her great curteſie and company, and then the good man and hee walkt into the towne, and Ione bids his bonne to her maſters, knowing nothing of the intended ieſt. Maſter Bennedick thought eueric houre ſeuine till the ſun was downe, and that hee were a bed with his beloued. At laſt hee had his wiſh, and home hee came to his friends houſe. Then ſaid Iohn, maſter Bennedick you muſt not in any caſe have a candle when you goe into the chamber, for then my kinſwoman will bee angrie, and hath placed all her beſt Louers veſtres. O Mr. Ian quoth hee, tis no ſuch maſter for light, mee ſhall find Metres Ione will enough in the darke. And entring in the parlour, groping about, hee felt a gowne and hat. O Metres Ione (quoth hee) here is your gowne and hat, me ſhall no hurt for a touſand pound. Then kneeling down by the beds ſide, in ſtead of miſtris Ione, hee ſainted the ſow in this ſort. O my Ione and my delight, it is thy faire face that hath wounded my hart, thy gray ſparkling eyes, and thy lilly white hands, with the comely proportion of thy pitty body, that made mee in ſeeking thee to forget my ſelfe, and to find thy Ione; loſe my owne freedome: but now is the time come wherein I ſhall reape the fruits of a plentifull harueſt. Now mee deare, from thy ſweet mouth let me ſucke the hony balme of thy breath, and with my hand ſtroke thoſe Roſie cheekes of thine, wherein I haue tooke ſuch pleaſure.

Come

Come with thy pittie lips and entertaine me into thy bed with one gentle kiſſe (why ſpeakeſt thou not my ſweet hart) and ſtretch out thy Mahatter armes to imbrace thy faithfull friend. Why ſhould ill pleaſing ſleepe cloſe vp the cryſtall windowes of thy beaus ſo faſt, and bereaue thee of thy fine Lazily attendants, wherewith thou was wont to ſalute thy friends? let it not offend thy gentle eares that I thus talk to thee. If thou haſt bowed not to ſpeak, I will not breake it, and if thou wilt command mee to bee ſilent, I will be dumbe: but thou needeſt not feare to ſpeake thy mind, ſeeing the cloudy night concreaſeth euery thing. By this time maſter Bennedick was vndreſſt, and ſlipt into bed, where the fine lad touched in a ſheet, & her head bound in a great linnen cloth. As ſoon as hee was laid, he began to embrace his new bedfellow, and laying his lips ſomewhat neere her ſnowt he ſuckt her breath very ſhort. Why how now Ione (quoth hee) bee you ſicke? Miſtris Ione your breath bee very ſtrong: haue you no cacke a'bed? The ſlow feeling her ſelfe diſturbed, began to grunt and keepe a great ſtirre: whereat maſter Bennedick (like a mad man) ran out of bed crying, de diuel, de deuill. The good man of the houſe (being purpoſely poſted) came ruſhing in with halfe a doſen of his neighbours, aſking what was the matter. Poh mee (quoth Bennedick) here be the great diuel, crie hoh, hoh, hoh, bee Goſſen I tink dee play the knaue wid mee, and mee wil bee reuenged on you. Sir quoth hee I knowing you loue mutton thought paſſe nothing vnfit, and therfore prouided you a whole ſole, and as you ſee this entertainment, ſpend Portegues. Walk, walk, Barkſhire maſtis will bee no Italians trumpets, nor the wines of Newbery their laudes. Barkſhire dog (quoth Bennedick) owleface, ſhacke, hang dcu and dy vriſe, haue it not bee for mee loue to ſweete Metreſſe Ione, I will no come in your houſe: but farewell till I caſh you, I ſhall make your hog noſe bud: The good man and his neighbours laught aloud, away went maſter Bennedick, and for very ſhame departed from Newbery before day.

CHAP.

Chap. VIII.

How Iack of *Newbery* keeping a very good houſe, both for hoſpitalitie and releefe of the poore, won great credit thereby, and how one of his wives goſſips found fault therwith.

GOod morrow Goſſip, now by my troth I am glad to ſee you in health. I pray you how doth Maiſter Winchcombe? What never a great belly yet? now fie, by my ſo your husband is wort his. Truſt mee Goſſip, ſaith miſtreſſe Winchcombe, a great belly comes ſooner than a new coate, but you muſt conſider wee have not beene long married: but truly goſſip you are welcome, I pray you ſit downe and we will have a morſell of ſomething by and by: nay truely Goſſip I cannot ſtay quoth ſhe, indeede I muſt be gone: for I did but even ſtep in to ſee how you did. You ſhall not chuſe but ſtay a while quoth miſtris Winchcombe, and with that a fayre Napken was layd upon the little Table in the Parlour, hard by the fire ſide, wherein was ſet a fine cold Capon, with a a great deale of other good cheare, with Ale and Wine plentie: I pray you Goſſip eate, and I beſhrew you if you ſpare quoth the one, I thanke you heartily Goſſip ſaith the other. But heare you Goſſip, I pray you tell mee: doth your husband love you well, and make much of you? yes truly I thanke God quoth ſhee: now by my truth ſayd the other, it were a ſhame for him if hee ſhould not: for though I ſay it before your face, though he had little with you, yet you were worthy to bee as good a mans wife as his. Truſt me I would not change my Iohn for my Lord Marqueſſe, quoth ſhe: a woman can be but well, for I live at hearts eaſe, and have all things at will, and truly hee will not ſee mee lacke any thing. Gods bleſſing on his heart quoth her Goſſip, it is a good hearing: but I pray you tell mee, I heare ſay your husband is choſen for our Burgeſſe in the Parliament houſe, is it true? Yes verily quoth his wife. I wis it is againſt his will; for it will be no ſmall charges unto him: Tuſh woman, what talke of you that? thanks be to

God

God, there is never a Gentleman in all Barkſhire that is better able to beare it. But heare you Goſſip, ſhall I bee ſo bold to aske you one queſtion more? Yes, withall my heart quoth ſhee. I heard ſay that your husband would new put you in your hood, and like gooſe, I pray you is it true? Yes in truth, quoth miſtreſſe Winchcomb, but farre againſt my mind, Goſſip: my french hood is bought already, and my like gooſe is a making, litle doth the Goldſmith hath brought home my chaynes and bracelets: but I aſſure you Goſſip, if you will beleeue mee, I had rather go an hundred miles then weare them, for I ſhall bee ſo aſhamed that I ſhall not looke upon any of my neighbors for blushing. And why I pray you? quoth her Goſſip. I tell you deare woman, you need not be any thing aſhamed or blush at the matter, eſpecially ſeeing your husbands eſtate is able to maintaine it: nay truſt me truly, I am of opinion you will become it ſingular well. Alas quoth miſtreſſe Winchcombe, having never beene uſed to ſuch attyre, I ſhall not know where I am, nor how to behaue my ſelfe in it: and beſide, my complexion is ſo blacke, that I ſhall carry but an ill fauoured countenance under a hood. Now without doubt (quoth her Goſſip) you are to blame to ſay ſo: beſides my heart if I ſpeake it to flatter, you are a very faire and well fauoured young woman as any is in Newbery. And never feare your behauiour in your hood-ſelfe, I tel you true, as ſole and wiſhered as I am my ſelfe, I could become a hood well enough, and behaue my ſelfe as well in ſuch attyre as any other whatſoeuer, and I would not warne of never a one of them all: what woman, I haue beene a pretty wench in my dayes, and ſeene ſome paſtimes. Therefore you need not to feare, ſeeing both your beauty and comely perſonage deſerues no leſſe then a french hood, and bee of good comfort. At the firſt (poſſible) folkes will gaze ſomething at you: but bee not you aſhamed for that, it is better they ſhould wonder at your good fortune, then lament at your miſerie: but when they haue ſeene you two or three times in that attyre they will afterward little reſpect it: for every new thing at the firſt

Mercilesse rate, but being once a little vsed, it growes common. Sweete gossip you iest true, (quoth she) and I am but a foole to bee so bashfull: it is no shame to vse Gods gifts for our credite: and well might my husband thinke me vnworthy to haue them, if I would not weare them: and though I say it, my goode is a fayre one, as any women weares in this countrey, and my gold chaine and bracelets are none of the worst sort, and I will shew them you, because you shall giue your opinion vpon them: and therewithall shee stept into her chamber and fetcht them forth. When her Gossip saw them, shee sayd: Now by shrew my fingers but these are fayre ones indeede. And when doe you meane to weare them Gossip? At Whitsuntide (quoth shee) if God spare mee life. I wish that well you may weare them, sayd her Gossip, and I would I were worthie to bee with you when you dresse your selfe, it should bee never the worse for you: I would order the matter so, that you should set euery thing about you in such sort as neuer a Gentlewoman of them all should staine you. Mistresse Winchcombe gaue her great thankes for her fauour, saying, that if she needed her helpe, she would be bold to sende for her.

Then begunne her gossip to turne her tongue to another tune, and now to blame her for her great house keeping. And thus she begunne: Gossip, you are but a young woman, and one that hath had no great experience of the World, in my opinion you are something too lauish in expences: pardon me good gossip, I speake but for good will, and because I loue you, I am the more bolde to admonish you: I tell you plain, were I the Mistresse of such a house, hauing such large allowance as you haue, I would saue 20. pounds a yeare that you spend to no purpose. Which way might that be (quoth mistres Winchcombe) indeed I confesse I am but a greene housewife, and one that hath but small tryall in the world, therefore I should bee verie glad to learne any thing that were for my husbandes profite, and my commodities. Then listen to mee quoth shee: You feede your folkes with the best of the beefe, and the finest of the wheate, which in my opi-

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nion is a great ouerſight: neither do I heare of anyKnight in this countrey that doth it. And to ſay the truth, how were they able to beare that port which they doe, if they ſhould it not by ſome meanes? Come thither, and I warrant you that you ſhall ſee but bytwine bread on the boord: if it be ſubtile and ſo mingled together, it is a great matter. and the bread highly commended: but moſt commonly they eate of their barly bread, as we mingle with peaſe, and ſuch like coarſe graine: which is durable, but of ſmall price, and there is no other bread allowed, except at their owne boord. Ale in like manner is their meate: it is moſt likewiſe that neither any pepper of beere is their ordinarie diet: which becauſe it is commonly ſtale, they ſeeth therewith meate and then a peece of bacon or peaſe, whereby they make their pottage fat, and therewith dines out the reſt with more content. And thus muſt you learne to doe. And beſides that, the mincing of the Drum, and the cheekes, the thropes heads, and the gathers, which you giue away at your gate, might ſerue them well enough: which would be a great ſparing to your other meat. and by this meanes you ſhould ſaue to the yeare much money, whereby you might the better maintaine your hoſt and like ſeruice. Againe, you ſerue your ſelues with ſuch ſuperfluities, that they ſpoyle in manner as much as they eate: believe me were I their Dame, they ſhould haue things more ſparingly, and then they ſhould thinke it more dainty. Truſt me gooſſip (quoth Gillcrafts Winchcombe) I know your meaning in many things to be true: for my ſelfe am ſo curious, that I doe haue much adoe to pleaſe them in their meat: one body ſay this is too fat; and another ſaith this is too groſſe, this is too freſh, and that too fat, and therein ſuits they will finde at their meales: I warrant you they make ſuch partings of their cheeſe, and keepe ſuch chipping of their bread, that their very eaters would ſerue two or three honeſt ſelues to their dinner. And from whence I pray you proceedes that (quoth her Huſband) but of too much plenty? but faith were they my ſeruants, I would make them glad of the moſt crumme

Ley caſt away, and thereupon I drinke to you, and I thanke you for my good cheere with all my heart. Much good may it doe you good goſſip, ſayd miſtreſſe Winchcombe: and I pray you when you come this way let vs ſee you. That you ſhall verily quoth ſhe, and ſo away ſhe went.

After this, miſtreſſe Winchcomb tooke occaſion to gine her folke ſhorter commons, and courſer meate then they were wont to haue: which at length being come to the good mans eare, hee was very much offended therewith, ſaying: I will not haue my people thus pinch't of their victuals. Emptie platters make greedy ſtomaches, and where ſcarcitie is kept, hunger is nouriſhed: and therefore wife as you loue me, let me haue no more of this doings. Husband (quoth ſhe) I would they ſhould haue enough: but it is a ſhame to ſuffer, and a ſhame to ſee the ſpoyle they make: I could bee verie well content to giue them their bellyes full, and that which is ſufficient, but it grieues me, to tell you true, to ſee how coy they are, and the ſmall care they haue in ſauing of things: and I aſſure you, the whole towne cryes ſhame of it, and it hath bred me no ſmall diſcredit for looking no better to it. Truſt me no more, if I was not chidde in my owne houſe, about this matter, when my eares did burne to heare what was ſpoken. Why was it that chidde thee, I pray thee tell me? was it not your old goſſip, dame Doputie, miſtreſſe trip and go? I beleeue it was. Why man if it were ſhe, you know ſhee hath beene an old houſekeeper, and one that hath knowen the world, and that ſhee told mee was for good will. Wife (quoth hee) I would not haue thee to meddle with ſuch light braind huſwiues, and ſo I haue told thee a good many times, and yet I cannot get you to leaue her company. Leaue her company? why husband ſo long as ſhe is an honeſt woman, why ſhould I leaue her company? Shee neuer gaue mee hurtfull counſell in all her life, but hath alwayes been ready to tell me things for my profit, though you take it not ſo. Leaue her company? I am no gyrle I would you ſhould well know, to bee taught what company I ſhould keepe: I keepe none but honeſt company I warrant you. Leaue her

company

company hetha? Alas poore ſoule, this reteined the hatch for her good will. I wis I wis, ſhe is more your friend, then you are your ſelfe. Well let her be what ſhe will ſayd her husband: but if ſhee come any more in my houſe, ſhee were as good no. And therefore take this for a warning I would admiſe you: and ſo away he went.

CHAP. IX.

How a Draper in *London*, who owed *Iacke* of *Newbery* much money became bankrout, whom *Iack* of *Newbery* found carrying a porters basket on his neck, and how he ſet him vp again at his owne coſt, which Draper afterward became an Alderman of *London*.

There was one Randoll Pert a Draper, dwelling in Watling ſtreete, that owed Iacke of Newbery fiue hundred pounds at one time, who in the ende fell greatly to decay, in ſo much that hee was caſt in priſon, and his wife with her poore children turned out of doores. All his creditors except Winchcomb had a ſhare of his goods, neuer releaſing him out of priſon, ſo long as he had one penny to ſatisfie them. But when this things was brought to Iacke of Newberies eare, his friendes counſelled him to lay his action againſt him. Nay (quoth he) if he be not able to pay me when hee is at libertie, hee will neuer be able to pay me in priſon: and therfore it were as good for me to forbear my money with out troubling him, as to adde more ſorrow to his grieued hart, and be neuer the nearer. Miſery is troden downe by many, and once brought low they are ſeldome or neuer releaſed: therfore he ſhall reſt for me vntouch't, and I would to God he were cleare of all other mens debts, ſo that I gaue him mine to begin the world again. Thus lay the poore Draper a long time in priſon, in which ſpace his Wife which before for daintineſſe would not foule her fingers, nay turne her head aſide for feare of hurting the ſet of her neckenger, was glad to goe about and waſh buckes at the Thames ſide,

and by her a chare-woman in rich mens houſes, her ſoft hands were hardened with ſcowring, and in ſtead of gold rings upon her lillie fingers, they were worn full of chaps, prouoked by the ſharpe lee and other ſundgeries. At laſt, maiſter Winchcombe being (as you heard) ſtolen againſt the Parliament a Bargaſſe for the towne of Newbery, and comming vp to London for the ſame purpoſe, when hee was alighted at his Inne, hee left one of his men there, to get a Porter to bring his trunke vp to the place of his lodging. Peeze Randoll Pere, which lately before was ſtrucke out of paiſe, hauing no other meanes of maintenance, became a Porter to carry burthens from one place to another, hauing an old ragged doublet, and a ſquire payre of breeches, with his hoſe out at the heeles, and a paire of olde broken ſlip ſhoes on his feet, a rope about his middle inſtead of a girdle, and on his head an old greaſie cap, which had ſo many holes in it, that his haire ſtarted through ſtumbe aſſoone as hee heard one call for a Porter, made anſwere ſtraight: here Maſter, what is it that you would haue carried? Mary (quoth hee) I would haue this Trunke borne to the ſpread Eagle at Iuiebridge. You ſhall maiſter (quoth hee) but what will you giue me for my paines? I will giue thee two pence. A penny more and I will carry it, ſayd the Porter: and ſo being agreed, away he went with his burthen till he came to the ſpread Eagle doore, where on a ſodden eſpying Maſter Winchcombe ſtanding, hee caſt downe the Trunke and ran away as hard as euer hee could. Maſter Winchcombe wondring what hee meant thereby, cauſed his man to runne after him, and to fetch him againe: but when he ſaw one purſue him, he ranne then the faſter, and in running, here he loſt one of his ſlip ſhoes, and there another: euer looking behinde him, like a man purſued with a deadly weapon, fearing euery twinkling of an eye to bee thruſt thorow. At laſt his breech, being tyed but with one point, what with the haſte he made, and the weakeneſſe of the thong, fell about his heeles: which ſo ſhackled him, that downe hee fell in the ſtreete all along, ſweating and blowing

blowing, being quite worne out of breath: and ſo by this meanes the ſeruing man ouertooke him, and taking him by the ſleeue, being as windleſſe as the other, good blowing and puffing a great while ere they could ſpeake one to the other. Sirra, quoth the ſeruingman, you muſt come to my maſter, you haue broken his Trunke all to peeces, by letting it fall. O for Gods ſake (quoth he) let me go, for Chriſts ſake let me goe, or elſe maſter Winchcombe of Newbery will arreſt me, and then I am vndone for euer. Now by this time Iacke of Newbery had cauſed his Trunke to be carryed into the houſe, and then he walked along to know what the matter was: but when he heard the Maſter ſay that he would arreſt him, he wondred greatly and hauing quite forgot Perts ſeruice, being ſo greatly changed by impriſonment and pouertie, he ſaid, What reaſon ſhould I arreſt thee? I owe my good fellow no reaſon for it. Why Sir (quoth he) I would to God I knew none neither. Then asking him what his name was: the poore man falling downe on his knees, ſaid: Good Maiſter Winchcombe beare with me and call me not into priſon: my name is Pert, and I do not denybut I owe you fiue hundred pounds: yet for the loue of God take pittie vpon mee. When Maiſter Winchcombe heard this, he wondred greatly at the man, and did as much pittie his miſerie, though as yet hee made it not knowne, ſaying: Paſſion of my heart man, thou wilt neuer pay mee thus: neuer thinke being a Maiſter to pay fiue hundred pound debt. But this hath your prodigalitie brought you to, your thriftleſſe neglecting of your buſines, that ſet more by your pleaſure than your profit. Then looking better vpon him, he ſaid: What neuer a ſhoo to thy foot, hoſe to thy legge, band to thy necke, nor cap to thy head? O Pert this is ſtrange, but will thou be an honeſt man, and giue me a bill of thy hand for my money? Yes Sir, with all my heart, quoth Pert. Then come to the Scriueners (quoth he) and diſpatch it, and I will not trouble thee. Now when they were come thither, with a great many following them at their

heeles

beſides, maſter Winchcomb ſaid: Maiſter Scrimſher? this fellow muſt giue mee a bill of his hand for fiue hundred pounds, I pray thee make it as it ſhould bee. The Scrimſher looking vpon the poore man, and ſeeing him in that caſe, ſaid to maſter Winchcombe: Sir, you were better to let it bee a Bond, and haue ſome ſureties bound with him. Why Scrimſher (quoth hee) doeſt thou thinke this is not ſufficient mans of himſelfe for fiue hundred pounds? Truly Sir (ſayd the Scrimſher) if you thinke him ſo, you are I am of the minde. Ile tell thee what (quoth maſter Winchcombe) were it not that we are all mortall, I would take his word aſſoone as his Will or Bond; the honeſtie of a man is all. Nay true in London (quoth the Scrimſher) bee true Bonds ſeeme better then honeſtie. But Sir when muſt this money bee payd? Marry Scrimſher when this man is Sheriffe of London. At that word the Scrimſher and the people ſtanding by laughed heartily, ſaying: In truth Sir make no more adoe but forgiue it him: as good to loſe the one as the other. Nay beleeue mee (quoth hee) not ſo: therefore be as I bid you. Whereupon the Scrimſher made the Bill to be payd when Randoll Pery was Sheriffe of London, and thereunto ſet his owne hand for a witneſſe, and theſe perſons more that ſtoode by ſet to their hands likewiſe. Then breathed Pery what hee ſhould haue for carrying his trunke. Sir (quoth hee) I ſhould haue three pence, but ſeeing I finde you ſo kinde, I will take but two pence at this time. Thanke good Pery quoth he, but for thy three pence, there is three ſhillings: and looke thou come to mee to morrow morning betimes. The poore man did ſo, at what time maſter Winchcombe had prouided him out of Birchin lane, a faire ſuite of apparell, Marchantlike, with a faire blacke cloake, and all other things fit to the ſame: then he tooke him a ſhop in Canweeke ſtreete, and furniſht the ſame ſhop with a thouſand pounds worth of cloath: by which meanes, and other fauours that maſter Winchcombe did him, hee grew againe into great credite, and in the end became ſo wealthy, that while maſter

ſter,

Come with thy prittie lips and entertaine me into thy bed with one gentle kiſſe (why ſpeakeſt thou not my ſweet hart) and ſtretch out thy Alabaſter armes to imbrace thy faithfull friend. Why ſhould ill pleaſing ſleepe cloſe vp the cryſtall windowes of thy beaus ſo faſt, and bereaue thee of thy fine Lazily attendants, wherewith thou was wont to ſalute thy friends? let it not offend thy gentle eares that I thus talk to thee. If thou haſt vowed not to ſpeak, I will not breake it, and if thou wilt command me to be ſilent, I will be dumbe: but thou needeſt not feare to ſpeake thy mind, ſeeing the cloudy night conceales euery thing. By this time maſter Bennedick was vnready, and ſlipt into bed, where the ſow lay ſnoaching in a ſheet, & her head bound in a great linnen cloth. As ſoon as hee was laid, he began to embrace his new bedfellow, and laying his lips ſomwhat neere her ſnout he ſmelt her breath very ſhort. Why how now Ione (quoth hee) bee you ſicke? Miſtris Ione your breath bee very ſtrong: haue you no cacke a bed? The ſow feeling her ſelfe diſturbed, began to grunt and keepe a great ſtirre: whereat maſter Bennedick (like a mad man) ran out of bed crying, de diuel, de deuill. The good man of the houſe (being perpetually poſſeſſed) came ruſhing in with halfe a dozen of his neighbours, aſking what was the matter. Poh mee (quoth Bennedick) here be the great diuel, crie hoh, hoh, hoh, bee Goſſen I tink dee play the knaue wid mee, and mee wil bee reuenged on you. Sir quoth hee I knowing you Ione mutton thought paſte nothing vnfit, and therfore prouided you a whole ſole, and as you like this entertainment, ſpend Portegues. Walk, walk, Barkſhire maſtis will bee no Italians ſtrumpets, nor the wines of Newbery their taudes. Barkſhire dog (quoth Bennedick) owleface, ſhacke, hang dcu and dy vriſe, haue it not bee for mee loue to ſweete Metreſſe Ione, I will no come in your houſe: but farewell till I caſh you, I ſhall make your hog noſe bud: The good man and his neighbours laught aloud, away went maſter Bennedick, and his very ſhame departed from Newbery before day.

CHAP.

Chap. VIII.

How *Iack of Newbery* keeping a very good houſe, both for hiſtraunce and reliefe of the poore, won great credit thereby, and how one of his wives goſſips found fault therwith.

GOod morrow Goſſip, now by my troth I am glad to ſee you in health. I pray you how doth Maiſter Winchcombe? What never a great belly yet? now fie, by my ſo your husband is wort ble. Truſt mee Goſſip, ſaith miſtreſſe Winchcombe, a great belly comes ſooner then a new coate, but you muſt conſider wee have not beene long married: but truly goſſip you are welcome, I pray you ſit down and we will have a morſell of ſomething by and by: nay truely Goſſip I cannot ſtay quoth ſhe, indeede I muſt be gone: for I did but even ſtep in to ſee how you did. You ſhall not chuſe but ſtay a while quoth miſtris Winchcombe, and with that a fayre Napken was layd upon the little Table in the Parlour, hard by the fire ſide, wherein was ſet a fine cole Capon, with a a great deale of other good cheare, with Ale and Wine plentie: I pray you Goſſip eate, and I beſhrew you if you ſpare quoth the one, I thanke you heartily Goſſip ſaith the other. But heare you Goſſip, I pray you tell mee: doth your husband love you well, and make much of you: yes truly I thanke God quoth ſhee: now by my truth ſayd the other, it were a ſhame for him if hee ſhould not: for though I ſay it before your face, though he had little with you, yet you were worthy to bee as good a mans wife as his. Truſt me I would not change my John for my Lord Marqueſſe, quoth ſhe: a woman can be but well, for I live at hearts eaſe, and have all things at will, and truly hee will not ſee mee lacke any thing. Gods bleſſing on his heart quoth her Goſſip, it is a good hearing: but I pray you tell mee, I heare ſay your husband is choſen for our Burgeſſe to the Parliament houſe, is it true? Yes verily quoth his wife. I wis it is againſt his will; for it will be no ſmall charges unto him: Tuſh woman, what talke of you that? thanks be to

God

no matter, little faid is ſoone amended: but heare you my maiſters, though miſtreſſe Winchomb goe in her hood, I am as good as ſhee, I care not who tell it her: I ſpend not my husbands money in cherries and codlings, go to, go to, I know what I ſay well enough: I am ſure I am not drunk: miſtreſſe Winchcomb, miſtreſſe? No, Nan Winchcombe. I will call her name, plaine Nan: what, I was a woman, when ſhe was ſe-reverence a paltrie girle, though now ſhe goes in her hood and chaine of gold: what care I for her? I am her elder, and I know more of her tricks: nay I warrant you I know what I ſay, tis no matter, laugh at me and ſpare not. I am not drunke I warrant: and with that being ſcant able to hold open her eyes, ſhee began to nodde and to ſpill the wine out of the glaſſe: which they perceiving let her alone, going out of the cedar till ſhee was found aſleepe, and in the meane ſpace they deuiſed how to finiſh this peece of knauery. At laſt they conſented to laie her forth at the backſide of the houſe, halfe a mile off, euen at the foote of a hill, that whoſoeuer came next ouer might finde her: notwithſtanding, Tweedle ſtaied hard by to ſee the end of this action. At laſt comes a notable clowne from Greenham, taking his way to Newbery, who comming haſtily ouer the hill ſtumbled at the Woman, and fell downe cleane ouer her: but in the ſtarting vp, feeling it was a woman, cryed out, alas, alas. How now, what is the matter quoth Tweedle? O quoth he here lies a dead woman. A dead woman quoth Tweedle: thats not ſo I truſt, and with that he tumbled her about: bones of me quoth Tweedle, its a drunken Woman, and one of the Towne vndoubtedly: ſurely it is great pitie ſhee ſhould lie heere. Why? do you know her quoth the Clowne? no not I, quoth Tweedle: howeſoeuer. I will giue thee halfe a groat and take her in thy Wallet, and carry her throughout the Towne and ſee if any body knowe her. Then ſay'ſt thou ſo, let me ſee the money and I will: for by the maſſe ſhe cannot haue a groat this great while. There it is quoth Tweedle: then the

ſhiſts put her in his basket, and ſo lifted her upon his back. Now by the maſſe ſhee ſtinkes vilely of drinke or wine, or ſome thing: but tell mee, what ſhall I ſay, when I come into the towne, quoth hee? Firſt quoth Tweedie, I would haue thee ſo ſoone as euer thou canſt get to the townes end, with a laſtie voice, to crie O yes, and then ſay, who knowes this woman, who? And though perſons ſome will ſay, I know her, and I know her, yet do not thou ſet her downe till thou comeſt to the market Croſſe, and there vſe the like words: and if any bee ſo friendly, to tell thee where ſhee dwels, then muſt before her booze crie ſo againe: and if thou performe this bravely, I will giue thee halfe a great maze. Maiſter Tweedie (quoth he) I know you well enough, you dwell with Maiſter Winchcomb, do you not? Well, if I be it not in the nick, giue mee neuer a penny: And ſo away hee went till hee came to the Townes end, and there hee cryes out as boldly as anie Bayliffes man, O yes, who knowes this woman, who? then ſaid the drunken woman in the Basket, her head falling firſt on one ſide, and then on the other ſide, Who co mee, who? Then ſaid hee againe, Who knowes this woman, who? Who co mee, who (quoth ſhee) and looke how oft hee ſpake the one, ſhe ſpake the other: ſaying ſtill Who co mee, who co me, who? Whereat all the people in the ſtreete fell into ſuch a laughing, that the teares ran downe againe. At laſt one made anſwer, ſaying: goodfellow ſhe dwels in the Heath hooke ſtreet, a little beyond maiſter Winchcombes. The fellow hearing that, goes downe thither in all haſte, and there in the hearing of a hundred people, cries: Who knowes this woman, who? whereat her husband comes out, ſaying: Marrie that doe I too well God helpe mee. Then ſaid the Clowne, if you know her, take her, for I know her not but for a drunken beaſt: and as her husband tooke her out of the Basket, ſhee gaue him a ſound boxe on the eare, ſaying: What you Queanes, do you mocke mee, and ſo was caried in. But the next day, when her braines

were

nion is a great ouerſight: neither do I beare of any diſeaſe in this country that doth it. And to ſay the truth, how were they able to beare that port which they vſe, if their diet were not by ſome meanes? Come hither, and I warrant you that you ſhall ſee but browne bread on the boord: if it be ſometime mixt and ſo mingled together, it is a great matter. and the bread highly commended: but moſt commonly they eate either barly bread, or ſo mingled with peaſe, and ſuch like courſe graine: which is no delicate, but of ſmall price, and there is no other bread allowed, except at their owne boord. And in like maner for their meate: it is well knowne that moſtes and peaſe of beefe is their ordinarie fare: which becauſe it is commonly lente, they ſeeth ſometimes with them a piece of bacon or porke, whereby they make their pottage fat, and therewith ſome eate the reſt with more content. And thus muſt you learne to vſe. And beſides that, the minſtrels of the Drum, and the cheeſes, the cheeſes heeles, and the garners, which you giue away at your gate, might ſerue them well enough: which would be a great ſparing to your other meat. and by this meanes you ſhould ſaue to the yeare much money: whereby you might the better maintaine your hoſt and like gueſts. Againe, you ſerue your ſelues with ſuch ſuperfluities, that they ſpoile in maner as much as they eate: beleeue me were I their Dame, they ſhould haue things more ſparingly, and then they would thinke it more daintie. Truſt me gooſſy (quoth Gillyflo Winchcombe) I know your words in many things to be true: for my ſelfe am ſo curſed, that I doe haue much adoe to pleaſe them in their diet: one body ſay this is too ſalt: and another ſaith this is too greaſie, this is too freſh, and that too fat, and therein failes they will finde at their meales: I warrant you they make ſuch partings of their cheeſe, and keepe ſuch chipping of their bread, that their very eaters would ſerue two or three honeſt ſoules to their dinner. And from whence I pray you proceedes that (quoth her Goſſip) but of too much plenty? but faith were they my ſeruants, I would make them glad of the moſt crummes

This lustie wench bee ſo allured with hope of marriage, that at length ſhee yeelded him her loue, and therwithall bent her whole ſtudie to worke his content: but in the end ſhe ſo much contented him, that it wrought altogether her owne diſcontent: to become high, ſhe laid her ſelfe ſo low, that the Knight ſuddenly fell ouer her, which fall became the riſing of her belly: but when this wanton perceiued her ſelfe to bee with child, ſhee made her meane vnto the Knight, ſaying.

Ah ſir George, now is the time to performe your promiſe, or to make me a ſpectacle of infamy to the whole world for euer: in the one, you ſhall diſcharge your duty of a true Knight; but in the other, ſhew your ſelfe a moſt periured perſon: ſmall honour ſtill it bee to boaſt in the ſpoyle of poore maidens, whoſe innocencie all good Knights ought to defend. Why thou leud paltrie thing quoth hee: commeſt thou to father thy baſtard vpon mee? Away ye daunghill carrion, away: beare you goodhuſwife, get you among your companions, and lay your litter where you liſt, but if you trouble me any more, truſt mee thou ſhalt dearely abie it: and ſo bending his browes like the angrye god of warr, he went his waies leauing the child bearing wench to the hazard of her fortune, either good or bad.

The poore maiden ſeeing her ſelfe in her kindneſſe thus caſt off, ſhed many teares of ſorrow in her ſinne, inueighing with many bitter greeuances, againſt the vnconſtancie of loue-affecting men. And in the end, when ſhee ſaw no other remedie, ſhee made her caſe knowne vnto her miſtreſſe: who after ſhe had giuen her many checkes & taunts, ſhee ſeeming to turne her out of doores, ſhee opened the matter to her husband.

The Lorde as he heard thereof, he made no more to do, but preſently poſted to London after ſir George, and found him at my Lord Admirals. What maſter Winchcombe (quoth hee) you are heartily welcome to London, and I pray you

ſay

ſir my good cheere: I pray you how doth your good wife, & all our friends in Barkſhire? All well and merrie, I thank you good Sir George, quoth hee: I left them in health, and hope they do ſo continue. And truſt me Sir (quoth he) hauing earneſt occaſion to come vp to talke with a bad debter, in my iourney it was my chance to light in company of a gallant widow: a Gentlewoman ſhee is of wondrous good wealth, whom griſly death hath bereft of a kinde husband, making her a Widow ere ſhee had been halfe a yeare a wife: her land, Sir George, is as well worth a hundred pound a yeare as one penny, being as faire and comely a creature as any of her degree in our whole countrey: Now Sir, this the more, by the reaſon that ſhe doubtes her ſelfe to bee with child, ſhe hath vowed not to marrie this xii. moneths: but becauſe I wiſh you well, and the Gentlewoman no hurt: I came of purpoſe from my buſineſſe to tell you thereof: Now Sir George, if you thinke her a fit wife for you, ride to her, woo her, winne her, and wed her. I thanke you good Maiſter Winchcombe (quoth he) for your fauour euer toward me: and gladly would I ſee this young Widow: I will thether. Shee dwels not halfe a mile from my houſe quoth Maiſter Winchcombe, and I can ſend for her at any time if you pleaſe.

Sir George hearing this, thought it was not beſt to come too faſt, fearing Ioane would father a child vpon him, and therefore ſaid; hee had no leaſure to come from my Lord: But quoth hee, would I might ſee her in London, on the condition it coſt me twenty nobles: Tuſh, Sir George (quoth Maiſter Winchcombe) delay in loue is dangerous, and hee that will woo a widow, muſt take time by the forelocke, and ſuffer none other to ſtep before him, leaſt hee leape with out the Widowes-lone. Gentleman, ſeeing now I haue taught you it, I will take my gelding and get me home, if I heare of her comming to London I will ſend you word, as perhaps come my ſelfe: till when adieu

good

ſpeeche George. Then preſently after Winchcombe from
[illegible] ſaying, come hither, I will give thee a great reward
[illegible] ſaying: I
[illegible] with
[illegible] Sir, what will the
[illegible] (quoth ſhe) I ſhall be bound while I live
[illegible] Come then miſtreſſe (quoth her maſter) and
[illegible] ſhe ſtood before him: he ſeeing her beautie
[illegible] ſhe muſt needes be a gentlewoman; ſhe
[illegible] and being ſtout attired, ſhee was ſet on a faire
[illegible] and a couple of men ſent with her by ſir London
[illegible] ſhee ſhould be, ſhee tooke her journey to the Cittie in the Morning
[illegible] and lodged at the Bell in the ſtrand: and miſtreſſe
Louiſelle muſt be her name, for ſo her maſter had willed
her to call her ſelfe: neither did the man that waited on her,
know the contrary, for maſter Winchcombe had beſpoken
them at their maſter, to wait upon a friend of his in Lon-
don: that ſhould not ſpeake any of his owne ſeruants: at that
time notwithſtanding they were appointed, for the Gentle-
woman ſtaid, ſaying they were her owne men. Which be-
ing done, maſter Winchcombe ſent ſir George a letter,
that the Gentlewoman which hee tooke him of, was ariu'd in
London, lying at the Bell in the ſtrand, hauing great
buſines at the Terme.

With which newes ſir George heard lodg on fire,
till ſuch time as he might ſpeake with her: ſhee ca-
meth thither; and ſtill ſhee wouldnot bee ſpoken
withall: ſo with chiefe keeping of her ſelfe, made him
more earneſt in his loue.

At length he watcht her ſo narrowly, that finding her
going forth in an euening, hee followed her, ſhee hauing
one man before, and another behinde: entring a Tenis
Court gate in the ſtreet, it came into the greater Ha-
ting

king of her, being the more bold to utter his minde. And suddenly stepping before her, hee thus saluted her, Gentlewoman God saue you, I haue often beene at your lodging and could neuer finde you at leisure. Why sir quoth shee (counterfeiting her naturall speech) haue you any businesse with me? Yes faire Widow quoth he, as you are a expert to the law, so am I a sutor for your loue: and may I finde you so fauorable to let me plead my owne cause at the bar of your beautie, I doubt not but to vnfolde so true a tale as I trust will cause you to giue sentence on my side. You are a merry Gentleman quoth shee: But for my owne part I know you not; neuertheleſſe, in a cause of loue, I will bee no let to your sute, though perhaps I helpe you little therein. And therefore sir, if it please you to giue attendance at my lodging, vpon my returne from the Temple, you shall knowe more of my minde, and so for this time. Sir George receiuing hereby some hope of good happe, gaped for his dear at her lodging home: whom at her comming she friendly greeted, saying: Surely sir, your diligence is more then the profit you shall get thereby: but I pray you how shall I call your name? George Reply (quoth he) I am called, and for some small deserts I was knighted in France. Why then Sir George (quoth shee) I hope done you too much wrong to make you thus vaine attendance on my worthleſſe person. But let mee bee so bold to request you to tell mee, how you came to know mee: for my owne part I cannot remember that euer I saw you before. Sir Iris Louelesse (sayd Sir George) I am well acquainted with a good neighbour of yours, called Master Winchcombe, who is my very good friend, and to say the truth you were commended vnto mee by him. Truly Sir George sayd shee, you are so much the better welcome: Neuertheleſſe, I haue made a vowe not to loue any man for this twelue moneths space. And therefore sir, till then I would wish you to trouble your selfe no further in this matter till

bookes, maſter Winchcomb ſaid: Sweareſt thou Scrimener? this fellow muſt giue mee a bill of his hand for fiue hundred pounds, I pray thee make it as it ſhould bee. The Scrimener looking vpon the poore man, and ſeeing him in that caſe, ſaid to maſter Winchcombe: Sir, you were better to let it bee a Bond, and haue ſome ſuretie bound with him. Why Scrimener (quoth hee) doeſt thou thinke this is not a ſufficient man of himſelfe for fiue hundred pounds? Marry Sir (ſayd the Scrimener) if you thinke him ſo, you are I am of two minds. Ile tell thee what (quoth maſter Winchcombe) were it not that we are all mortall, I would take his word aſſoone as his Bill or Bond; the honeſtie of a man is all. And ſee in London (quoth the Scrimener) bee euer Bonds fare better then honeſtie. But Sir when muſt this money bee payd? Marry Scrimener when this man is Sheriffe of London. At that word the Scrimener and the people ſtanding by laughed heartily, ſaying: In truth Sir maiſter ſhrieue but iogging it him: as good to haue the one as the other. Nay beleeue mee (quoth hee) not ſo: therefore be as I bid you. Whereupon the Scrimener made the Bill to be payd when Randoll Pery was Sheriffe of London, and thereunto ſet his owne hand for a witneſſe, and twentie perſons more that ſtoode by ſet to their handes likewiſe. Then beſought Pery what hee ſhould haue for carrying his trunke. Sir (quoth hee) I ſhould haue three pence, but ſeeing I haue you ſo kinde, I will take but two pence at this time. Thanke good Pery quoth he, but for thy three pence, there is three ſhillings: and looke thou come to mee to morrow morning betimes. The poore man did ſo, at what time Maſter Winchcombe bid prouided him out of Birchin lane, a faire ſuit of apparell, Parchmentlike, with a faire blacke cloake, and all other things fit to the ſame: then he tooke him a ſhop in Conweeke ſtreete, and furniſht the ſame shop with a thouſand pounds worth of cloath: by which meanes, and other fauours that maſter Winchcombe did him, hee grew againe into great credite, and in the end became ſo wealthy, that while maiſter

Sir Winchcombe ſince hee was choſen Sheriffe, at what time he payed five hundred pounds every penie, and after ſped an Aldermen of the Citie.

CHAP. X.

How *Iack* of *Newberies* Seruants were reuenged of their Dames tattling Goſsip.

VPon a time it came to paſſe, when maiſter Winchcombe was farre from home, and his Wife gone abroad: That Miſtris many-better, dame tittle-tattle, goſsip punte-pot, according to her old cuſtome came to Miſtris Winchombes houſe, perfectly knowing of the good mans abſence, and little thinking the good wife was from home: where knocking at the gate, Tweedle kept out and aſkt who was there? where haſtily opening the wicket, he ſodainly diſcouered the full proportion of this liuie beaſt, who demanded if the Miſtris were within. What, miſtris Franke (quoth he) in faith welcome: how haue you done a great while? I pray you come in. Nay, I cannot ſtay quoth ſhee: Notwithſtanding, I doe call to ſpeake a word or two with your Miſtris, I pray you tell her that I am here. Yes I will (quoth he) ſo ſoone as ſhe comes in. Then into the women, what is ſhee abroad? Why then farewell good Tweedle: why what haſte, what haſte, miſtris Franke (quoth he) I pray you ſtay and drinke ere you goe, I hope a cup of mine ſparke will doe your old body no hurt: what (quoth ſhee) haue you mine ſacke already? Yes by my troth I drunke none this yeare, and therefore I be not greatly care if I take a taſte before I go: and with that ſhee went into the wine cellar with Tweedle, where firſt he ſet before her a piece of powdred biefe as greene as a leeke: And then going into the kitchen, he brought her a piece of roſted beefe hot from the ſpit. Then certaine of the Seruants of the houſe and ſome of the young men, who had long before

reſolued to bee reuenged of their ſcolding huſwife: came into the Cellar one after another, one of them bringing a great piece of a gambon of Bacon in his hand: and euerie one bad miſtreſſe Franke welcome: and firſt one drunke to her, and then another, and ſo the third, the fourth, and the fift: ſo that miſtreſſe Franks braines waxt as mellow as a pippin at Michaelmas, and ſo light, that ſitting in the Cellar ſhe thought the houſe ran round. They ſeeing her to fall into merry humours, whetted her on in merriment as much as they could, ſaying: miſtreſſe Frank, ſpare not I pray you, but drinke your ſelfe as welcome as any woman in Newberie, for the boue cauſe to loue you, becauſe you loue our miſtris ſo well. Now aſſure you quoth ſhe (liſping in her ſpeech) her tongue maping ſomewhat too big for her mouth, I loue your miſtreſſe well indeed, as if ſhe were my owne daughter. Nay but heare you quoth they, ſhe begins not to deale well with vs now. Ha my Lamb quoth ſhe, why ſo? Becauſe quoth they, ſhe ſeekes to bar vs of our allowance, telling our Maſter that we ſpend too much in houſekeeping. Nay then (quoth ſhe) your miſtreſſe is an Aſſe, and a foole: and though ſhe goe in her hood, what care I? ſhe is but a gill to me: twittle twattle, I know what I know: Come on, drinke to me. Well Tweedle, I drinke to thee with all my heart: why then whoſoeuer weare breeches? O that I were a young wench for thy ſake: but tis no matter though I be but a poore woman, I am a true woman. Young boyes, I haue dwelt in this Towne theſe fortie winters. Why man quoth they, you haue dwelt here longer then our Maſter. Your Maſter, quoth ſhe? I knew your Maſter a boy, when he was called Iacke of Newbery; I Iacke, I knew him called plaine Iack: a poore Gentleman, now he is rich: I am poore, but tis no matter, I knew her a ſtraggling ſimple girle, marke me? Well now quoth they, ſhe takes vpon her luſtily, and hath forgot what ſhe was. Lord, what will you haue of a greene thing quoth ſhe. Here I drinke to you, ſo long as the good cheere laſts a ſwallowing: this no

no matter, little ſaid is ſoone amended: but heare you my maiſters, though miſtreſſe Winchomb goe in her hood, I am as good as ſhee, I care not who tell it her: I ſpend not my husbands money in cherries and codlings, go to, go to, I know what I ſay well enough: I am ſure I am not drunk: miſtreſſe Winchcomb, miſtreſſe? No, Nan Winchcombe. I will call her name, plaine Nan: what, I was a woman, when ſhe was ſe-reuerence a paltrie girle, though now ſhe goes in her hood and chaine of gold: what care I for her? I am her elder, and I know more of her tricks: nay I warrant you I know what I ſay, tis no matter, laugh at me and ſpare not. I am not drunke I warrant: and with that being ſcant able to hold open her eyes, ſhee began to nodde and to ſpill the wine out of the glaſſe: which they perceiuing let her alone, going out of the cellar till ſhee was found aſleepe, and in the meane ſpace they deuiſed how to finiſh this peece of knauery. At laſt they conſented to laie her ſwath at the backſide of the houſe, halfe a mile off, euen at the foote of a hille, that whoſoeuer came next ouer might finde her: notwithſtanding, Tweedle ſtayed hard by to ſee the end of this action. At laſt comes a notable clowne from Greenham, taking his way to Newbery, who comming haſtily ouer the hille ſtumbled at the Woman, and fell downe cleane ouer her: but in the ſtarting vp, ſeeing it was a woman, cryed out, alas, alas. How now, what is the matter quoth Tweedle? O quoth hee here lies a dead woman. A dead woman quoth Tweedle: thats not ſo I troth, and with that hee tumbled her about: bones of mee quoth Tweedle, its a drunken Woman, and one of the Towne vndoubtedly: ſurelie it is great pittie ſhee ſhould lie heere. Why? do you know her quoth the Clowne? no not I, quoth Tweedle: howeuerhaſtie. I will giue thee halfe a groat and take her in thy Baſket, and carry her throughout the Towne and ſee if any body knowes her. Then ſaid th'other, let me ſee the money and I will: For by the maſſe ſhe earnes not halfe a groat this great while. There it is quoth Tweedle: then the

ſellers put her in his basket, and ſo lifted her upon his back. How by the maſſe ſhee ſtinkes ſtrong of drinke or wine, or ſome thing: but tell mee, what ſhall I ſay, when I come into the towne, quoth hee? Firſt quoth Tweedle, I would haue thee ſo ſoone as euer thou canſt get to the townes end, with a lowde voice, to crie O yes, and then ſay, who knowes this woman, who? And though paſſing ſome will ſay, I know her, and I know her, yet do not thou ſet her downe till thou comeſt to the market Croſſe, and there vſe the like words: and if any bee ſo friendly, to tell thee where ſhee dwels, then ſtill before her booze crie ſo againe: and if thou performe this brauely, I will giue thee halfe a great maze. Maiſter Tweedle (quoth he) I know you well enough, you dwell with Maiſter Winchcomb, do you not? Well, if I do it not in the nick, giue mee neuer a penny: And ſo away hee went till hee came to the Towneſ end, and there hee cryes out as boldly as anie Baylifes man, O yes, who knowes this woman, who? then ſaid the drunken woman in the Basket, her head falling firſt on one ſide, and then on the other ſide, Who co mee, who? Then ſaid ſhee againe, Who knowes this woman, who? Who co mee, who (quoth ſhee) and looke how oft ſhee ſpake the one, ſhe ſpake the other: ſaying ſtill VVho co mee, who co me, who? Whereat all the people in the ſtreete fell into ſuch a laughing, that the teares ran downe againe. At laſt one made anſwer, ſaying: goodfellow ſhe dwels in the Heath bycke ſtreet, a little beyond maiſter Winchcombes. The fellow hearing that, goes downe thither in all haſte, and there in the hearing of a hundred people, cries: Who knowes this woman, who? whereat her husband comes out, ſaying: Marrie that doe I too well God helpe mee. Then ſaid the Clowne, if you know her, take her, for I know her not but for a drunken beaſt: and as her husband tooke her out of the Basket, ſhee gaue him a ſound boxe on the eare, ſaying: What you Queanes, do you mocke mee, and ſo was caried in. Next the next day, when her husband

were

were quiet, & her head cleared of these foggie vapours she was so ashamed of her selfe, that she went not forth of her house a long time after: and if any body bid say vnto her, Who co me who? shee would bee so mad and furious, that she would bee ready to draw her knife and to stick them, & seeke as if she strone for the best game at the cucking stoole. Moreouer, her prattling to Mistresse Winchcombes folke of their mistresse, made her and the other Gos to fall out with her, in such sort that shee troubled them no more, eight with her companie as her counsell.

Chap. XI.

How one of *Iacke of Newberies* maydens became a Ladie.

AT the winning of Mocielle in France, the noble Earle of Surrey being at that time Lord high Admirall of England, made manie Knights: among the rest was Sir George Rigley, brother to Sir Edward Rigley, and sundrie other, whose valours farre surpassed their wealth: so that when peace was a scarcitie in their purse, that their credit grew weak in the Citie, they were inforced to ride into the country, where at their friends hands they might haue honourable welcome, without expence as grudging. Among the rest, Iacke of Newbery that kept a table for all commers, was neuer lightly without manie such guests: where they were sure to haue both welcome and good cheere, and their mirth the lesse pleasing them their meate was plentie. Sir George hauing ben long at boord in this plaine peasants house, at length tell in liking of one of his daughters, who was as faire as she was tall.

This little wench bee ſo allured with hope of marriage, that at length ſhe yeelded him her loue, and therwithall burnt her whole ſtudie to worke his content: but in the end ſhe ſo much contented him, that it wrought altogether her diſpleaſure: to become high, ſhe leid her ſelfe ſo low, that the Knight ſuddenly fell ouer her, which fall became the riſing of her belly: but when this wanton perceiued her ſelfe to bee with child, ſhee made her mone vnto the Knight, ſaying.

Ah ſir George, now is the time to performe your promiſe, or to make me a ſpectacle of infamy to the whole world for euer: in the one, you ſhall diſcharge your duty of a true Knight; but in the other, ſhew your ſelfe a moſt periured perſon: ſmall honour ſtill it bee to boaſt in the ſpoyle of poore maidens, whoſe innocencie all good Knights ought to defend. Why by thou leud paltrie thing quoth hee: commeſt thou to father thy baſtard vpon mee? Away ſauncie carrion, away: beare you goodhuſwife, get you among your companions, and lay your litter where you liſt, but if you trouble me any more, truſt mee thou ſhalt dearely abie it: and ſo bending his browes like the angry god of warr, he went: his waies leauing the chilo breeding wench to the hazard of her fortune, either good or bad.

The poore maiden ſeeing her ſelfe ſo her kindneſſe thus caſt off, ſhed many teares of ſorrow ſo her ſleeue, inueighing with many bitter greeues, againſt the vnconſtancie of loue-affecting men. And in the end, when ſhee ſaw no other remedie, ſhee made her caſe knowne vnto her miſtreſſe: who after ſhe had giuen her many chaſtiſes & taunts, ſhee ſtriuing to turne her out of doores, ſhee opened the matter to her husband.

The louer as ſoone as he heard thereof, he made no more to do, but preſently poſted to London after ſir George, and found him at my Lord Admirals. What maſter Winchcombe (quoth hee) you are heartily welcome to London, and I thank you

for

ſir my good cheere: I pray you how doth your good wife, & all our friends in Barkſhire? All well and merrie, I thank you good ſir George, quoth he: I left them in health, and hope they do ſo continue. And truſt me ſir (quoth he) hauing earneſt occaſion to come vp to talke with a bad debter, in my iourney it was my chance to light in company of a gallant widow: a Gentlewoman ſhee is of wondrous good wealth, whom grim death hath bereft of a kinde husband, making her a Widow ere ſhee had been halfe a yeare a wife: her land, ſir George, is as well worth a hundred pound a yeare as one penny, being as faire and comely a creature as any of her degree in our whole countrey: Now ſir, this the worſt, by the reaſon that ſhe doubtes her ſelfe to bee with child, ſhe hath vowed not to marrie this xii. moneths: but becauſe I wiſh you well, and the Gentlewoman no hurt: I came of purpoſe from my buſineſſe to tell you thereof: Now ſir George, if you thinke her a fit wife for you, ride to her, woe her, winne her, and wed her. I thanke you good maiſter Winchcombe (quoth he) for your fauour euer toward me: and gladly would I ſee this young Widow if I will where. Shee dwels not halfe a mile from my houſe quoth maiſter Winchcombe, and I can ſend for her at any time if you pleaſe.

Sir George hearing this, thought it was not beſt to come thether, fearing Ioane would faſten a child vpon him, and thereſore ſaid; hee had no leaſure to come from my Lord: But quoth hee, would I might ſee her in London, on the condition it coſt me twenty nobles: Tuſh, ſir George (quoth maiſter Winchcombe) delay in loue is dangerous, and hee that will woe a widow, muſt take time by the forelocke, and ſuffer none other to ſtep before him, leaſt hee leape with out the Widowes-lone. Not withſtanding, ſeeing now I haue tolde you of it, I will take my gelding and get me home, if I heare of her comming to London I will ſend you word, or perhaps come my ſelfe: till when adieu

good

[illegible] Winchcombe from [illegible] : [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

king of her, hecing the more b.ged to utter his minde. And ſuddenly ſtepping before her, hee thus ſaluted her, Gentlewoman God ſaue you, I haue often beene at your lodging and could neuer finde you at leiſure. Why ſir quoth ſhee (counterfeiting her naturall ſpeech) haue you any buſ---ſe with me? Yes faire Widow quoth he, as you are a client to the law, ſo am I a ſuter for your loue: and may I find you ſo fauorable to let me plead my owne caſe at the bar of your beautie, I doubt not but to vnfolde ſo true a tale as I truſt will cauſe you to giue ſentence on my ſide. You are a merry Gentleman quoth ſhee: But for my owne part I know you not; neuertheleſſe, in a caſe of loue, I will bee no let to your ſute, though perhaps I helpe you little therein. And therefore ſir, if it pleaſe you to giue attendance at my lodging, vpon my returne from the Temple, you ſhall knowe more of my mind, and ſo they parted. Sir George receiuing hereby ſome hope of good happe, gaped for his dear at her lodging home: whom at her comming ſhe friendly greeted, ſaying: Surely ſir, your diligence is more then the profit you ſhall get thereby: but I pray you how ſhall I call your name? George Reply (quoth he) I am called, and for ſome ſmall deſerts I was knighted in France. Why then Sir George (quoth ſhee) I haue beene you too much wrong to make you thus dance attendance on my worthleſſe perſon. But let mee bee ſo bold to requeſt you to tell mee, how you came to know mee: for my owne part I cannot remember that euer I ſaw you before. Sir-rah Louelaſſe (ſayd Sir George) I am well acquainted with a good neighbour of yours, called Maiſter Winchcombe, who is my very good friend, and to ſay the truth you were commended vnto mee by him. Truly Sir George ſayd ſhee, you are ſo much the better welcome: Neuertheleſſe, I haue made a vowe not to loue any man for this nine-and-twentie ſpace. And therefore ſir, till then I would wiſh you to trouble your ſelfe no further in this matter till

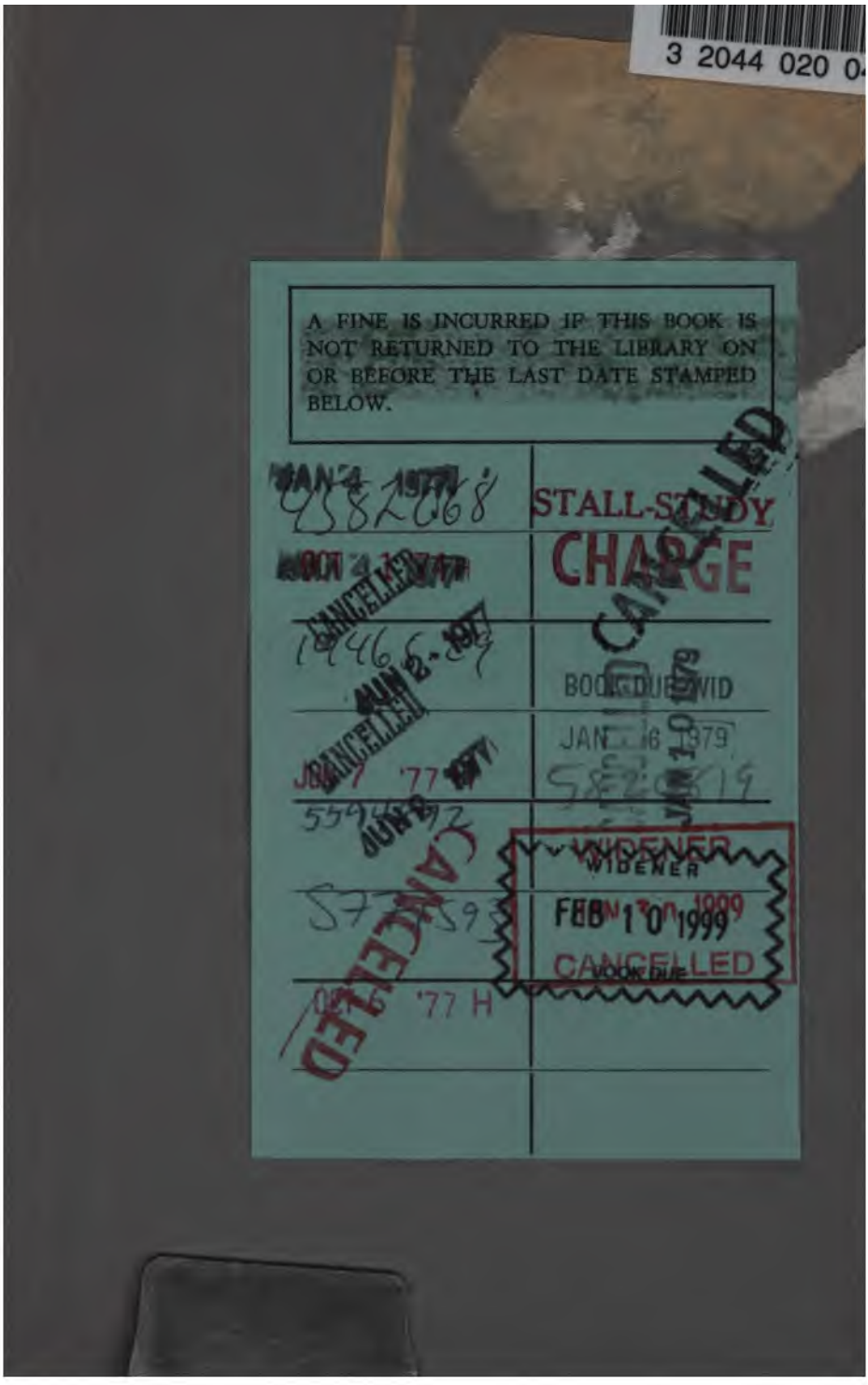
that time be expired: and then if I finde you bee not intangled to any other, and that by triall I finde out the truth of your loue, ſir Maſter Winchcombes ſake your welcome ſhall bee as good as any other Gentlemans whatſoeuer.

Sir George hauing receiued this anſwere was wonderous woe, curſing the day that euer he meddled with loue whoſe time of deliuerance would come long before a twelue moneth were expired, to his bitter ſhame, and ouerthrowe of his good fortune: for by that meanes ſhould hee haue maiſter Winchcombe his enemie, and therewithall the loſſe of this faire Gentlewoman. Wherefore to preuent this miſchiefe he ſent a Letter in all haſte to maiſter Winchcombe, requeſting him moſt earneſtly to come vp to London, by whoſe perſwaſion hee hoped ſtraight to finiſh the marriage. Maiſter Winchcomb fulfilled his requeſt, and then preſently was the marriage ſolemnized at the Tower of London, in preſence of many gentlemen of Sir Georges friends. But when hee found it was Ione whome hee had gotten with child, hee fretted and fumed, ſtampt, and ſtar'd like a diuell. Why (quoth he) Winchcomb) what needs all this? Came you to my table to make my maid your ſtrumpet? had you no mans houſe to diſhonor but mine? Sir, I would you ſhould well know, that I account the pooreſt wench in my houſe too good to be your whore, were you ten knights: and ſeeing you tooke pleaſure in making her your wanton, take it no ſcorne to make her your wife: and vſe her well too, or you ſhall heare of it. And hould thee Ione (quoth he) there is a hundred pounds for thee: And let him not ſay thou camſt to him a begger. Sir George ſeeing this, and withall calling to his minde what friend Maiſter Winchcombe might bee to him, taking his wife by the hand gaue her a louing kiſſe, and Maiſter Winchcombe great thankes. Whereupon hee willed him for two yeres ſpace to take his diet and his Ladies at his houſe: which the Knight accepting rode ſtraight with

his

Sir wife to Newbery. Then bid the Miſtris make curtſie to the Maid, ſaying: you are welcome Madam, giving her the vpper hand in all places. And thus they liued afterward in great ioy: and our King, hearing how Iacke had matcht Sir George, laughing heartily thereat, gaue him a liuing for euer, the better to maintain my Lady his Wife.

FINIS.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